FAKE - VOL 2
SANAMI MATOH
Notes: Enjoy vol 2!
Kanzashi
kanzashi0101@yahoo.com

-FAKE-
2
SANAMI MATOH

TOKYOPOP®

Manga
Drama
USA $9.99

-FAKE-™

Meet Ryo and Dee, two New York City cops with an attraction for action—and each other! This time, Dee and Rya go an their first vacation together, but their break from crime-fighting doesn't last long. When the duo encounters a carpse, they're forced ta answer questions from local police, and soon discaver thot four Japanese people have recently been murdered there. Officer Berkeley Rose seeks their help. When JJ, Bikky, and Carol show up, it appears that one af their group might be the killer's next target. With a lot of skill and a little luck, Dee and Ryo will be able to solve this murder mystery before another life is lost. Later, Dee takes Ryo to visit the arphanage he grew up in. When a bomb explodes and seriously injures the nun who raised him, Dee will stop at nothing to find the perpetrator and get even. It's up to Ryo to stop Dee before his lust for revenge leads ta murder.

-FAKE-

VOLUME TWO

BY SANAMI MATOH

-FAKE-

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FAKE

Translator - Nan Rymer
English Adaption - Stuart Hazleton
Editor - Julie Taylor
Contributing Editor - Jodi Bryson
Retouch and Lettering - Rob Steen
Cover Artist - Raymond Makowski

Managing Editor - Jill Freshney
Production Coordinator - Antonio DePietro
Production Managers - Jennifer Miller, Mutsumi Miyazaki
Art Director - Matt Alford
Editorial Director - Jeremy Ross
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
President & C.O.O. - John Parker
Publisher & C.E.O. - Stuart Levy

Email: editor@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

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TOKYOPOP Inc
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

Fake Vol. 2

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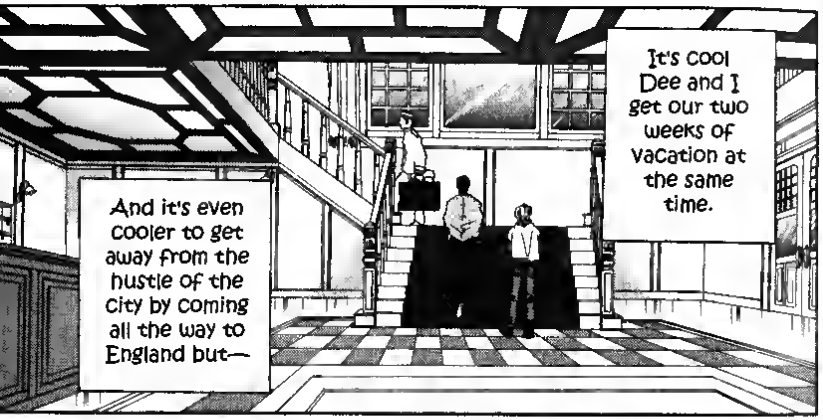
フェイク
FAKE
act5

THERE IT IS.
YOU WANT SOME CHEESE WITH THAT WHINE?
AND WHY THE HELL DID WE HAVE TO TREK THE ONE KILOMETER FROM THE PARKING LOT TO GET HERE ANYHOW? WE'RE THE GUESTS, REMEMBER? HAVEN'T THEY EVER HEARD OF THE PHRASE, "LIMO SERVICE"?
Deal with it. It's good exercise
BOO HOO
HOLY SHIT! WE'RE STAYING IN THAT TINY THING?
SO WHAT IF IT'S NOT A BIG CHAIN?
IT'S JUST A PEACEFUL, LITTLE HOTEL UNDER PRIVATE MANAGEMENT, AND IT'S OFF-SEASON SO WE GET IT PRETTY MUCH ALL TO OURSELVES.

FAKE

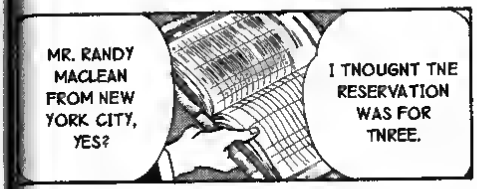
TNANK YOU VERY MUCH.
YOU'LL BE STAYING IN ROOMS 206 AND 207, GENTLEMEN.


It's cool Dee and I get our two weeks of vacation at the same time.
And it's even cooler to get away from the hustle of the city by coming all the way to England but—

N.. NOPE.
?

DID NE SAY ANYTNING TO YOU, DEE?
HUN?! URM.. AAHHH -

I WONDER WNY BIKKY DECIDED NOT TO TAG ALONG AT TNE LAST MINUTE NE SEEMED SO EXCITED ABOUT IT TNE LAST TIME I TALKED TO NIM.
Twitter


MR. RANDY MACLEAN FROM NEW YORK CITY, YES?
I TNOUGNT TNE RESERVATION WAS FOR TNREE.

BUT SOMETNING HAPPENED AT THE LAST MINUTE AND ONE OF US COULDN'T MAKE IT.
ON, YEAH, SORRY ABOUT THAT.

MUCH APPRECIATED.
I'LL JUST CANCEL THAT RESERVATION FOR YOU.
THAT'S FINE.

IF YOU NEED ANYTNING- ANYTNING AT ALL- PLEASE FEEL FREE TO GIVE ME A RING
MY NAME IS RENARD NENRY, TNE NOTEL'S OWNER

HEY THERE.
YO.
WELL, IF I ENDED UP NOT GOING, TNEN TNE TWO OF THEM WOULD BE ALL ALONE, RIGNT?
OH, I GET IT.
NOPE. I GUESS YOU COULD SAY SOMETNING CAME UP.
I TNOUGHT YOU WERE ON VACATION WITN RYO AND DEE.
WHICH WAS?

FOR A MEASLY 100 BUCKS YOU WERE WILLING TO SELL RYO INTO THE BIGGEST DANGER OF NIS LIFE?
NOT LIKE NE'D HAVE ANY CLUE NE WAS IN DANGER BUT, WNATEVER.
YUP. I'M BROKE THIS MONTH SO I TOOK IT EASY ON DEE AND SETTLED FOR A 100 BUCKS AS A BRIBE OTHERWISE I WAS PLANNING TO GET IN BETWEEN THEM LIKE YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE
SO IN OTHER WORDS, DEE TOLD YOU TO STAY HOME, RIGHT?
You're a cheap bum.
AND LIKE DEE COULD GET ANYWHERE WITN RYO ANYWAY. RYO'S A LOT TOUGNER TNAN NE LOOKS, YOU KNOW.
Dee doesn't know anything about scoring, if you know what I mean.
FINE. I'LL PUT A DOLLAR ON RYO MAKING LIKE THE '80'S AND JUST SAYING "NO."
ONE BUCK SAYS DEE FINALLY GETS INTO RYO'S PANTS.
UN-UN. IMPOSSIBLE. NO WAY. NO FRIGGIN' WAY. TRUST ME.
BUT I BET DEE IS GONNA PUSN AND PUSN AND PUSH, AND EVENTUALLY...
Nuff said
Nope, it's way too early.
It is about time he succumbed though.

Hey now...

I wonder if he's another guest?

ALL RIGHT THEN, WE'RE FINALLY UNPACKED. NOW FOR SOME SERIOUS R&R.
CLOSE
WHO'S THAT?

It's been a long time since Dee and I've been able to spend time together outside of work. We've been so busy lately.
YEAH. I WASN'T SO SURE WHEN MY UNCLE FIRST TOLD ME ABOUT IT, BUT NOW THAT I'M HERE...I THINK WE'LL BE ABLE TO REALLY RELAX.
THIS PLACE IS BEAUTIFUL. IT'S SO PEACEFUL.
HUH?!
IT'S BEEN AWHILE, HUH?
URR_AHHH_ Y_YEAH. IT HAS, HASN'T IT?
BEING TOGETHER LIKE THIS, OUTSIDE OF WORK_
RYO_
Holy cow — that scared me! I can't believe we were thinking the same thing.
I SURE AS HELL DID KNOCK.
Jumpy much?
YOU SCARED THE HELL OUT OF ME!! DON'T YOU EVER KNOCK, DEE?
'kay
ANYWAY, WHATEVER, DUDE! I HEARD THERE'S A LAKE OUT BACK. HOW'S ABOUT WE GO CHECK IT OUT?
EH?
WHATCHA DOING?

I...
YES, RYO?
Huh ?
You bastard! You didn't have to hit me just to avoid the question!
DID YOU SEE THAT? OUT THERE! SOMETHING RED. IT JUST...
OWW!!
HEY?!

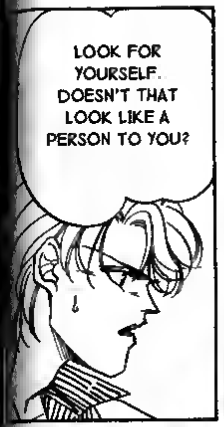
I...HOW DO I FEEL ABOUT YOU?
SO, WELL, UMM... HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ME?
WHAT IS IT, DEE?
Huh?!
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
DEE!
R...REALLY, REALLY LIKE ME? HEY, WAIT A MINUTE, DEE, BE CAREFUL...THE BOAT'LL-
I REALLY, REALLY LIKE YOU, YOU KNOW.

IT WAS NO PROBLEM GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR INVESTI-GATION.
THANKS FOR THE EXPLANATION, GUYS.
YOU'RE FREE TO GO FOR NOW.

YEAH, SO IT SEEMS.
THE VICTIM'S TIME OF DEATH WAS JUST A LITTLE BIT BEFORE WE DISCOVERED HER BODY

YEAH, I SUPPOSE...
LUCKY WE GOT OUT WITH JUST A BIT OF QUESTIONING.

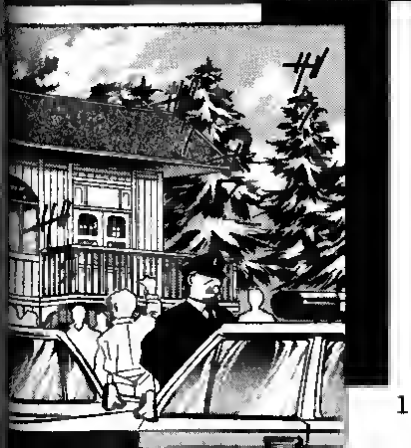
SO WHAT? THE HOTEL DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE CRIME AFTER ALL.
AND ONCE THE POLICE FINISH UP WITH THEIR QUESTIONS, I'LL BET THEY'LL JUST TAKE OFF.
And a bunch of cops hanging around would be bad for business.


LOOK FOR YOURSELF. DOESN'T THAT LOOK LIKE A PERSON TO YOU?

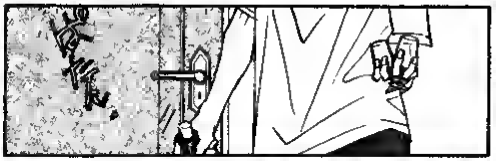
YOU THINK SO?
WHAT THE HELL?!

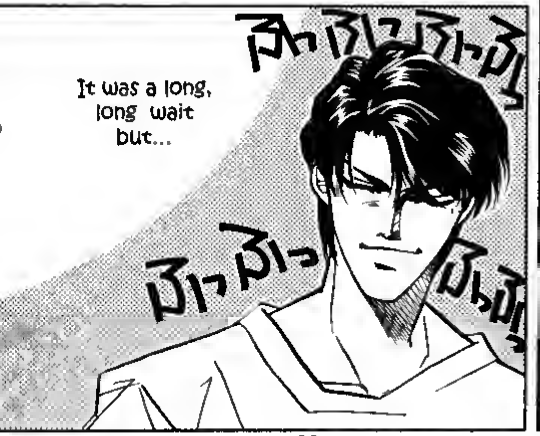
I THINK SO.
SO WHAT IS IT, YOU JERK? IS THERE A BODY OR SOMETHING FLOATING AROUND?

!!



OKAY.
LET'S GO.
SPLASH



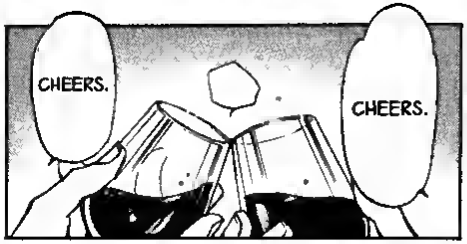


What's his problem anyway?!

AND I'M SUPPOSED TO ACT GOOFY! WE'RE HERE ON VACATION, RIGHT? REMEMBER?
1st graders don't even fall for stuff like that.
Doit.
What was that for?
DEE!

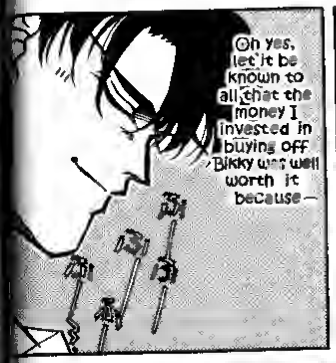
SURE, WHY NOT? THE MOON'S SO BEAUTIFUL TONIGHT. LET'S GO DRINK ON THE BALCONY.

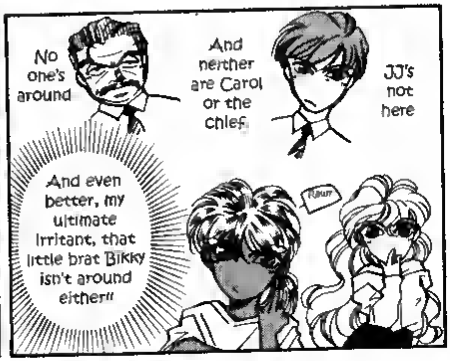
HOW ABOUT A NIGHTCAP? A GLASS A DAY KEEPS YOU HEALTHY.

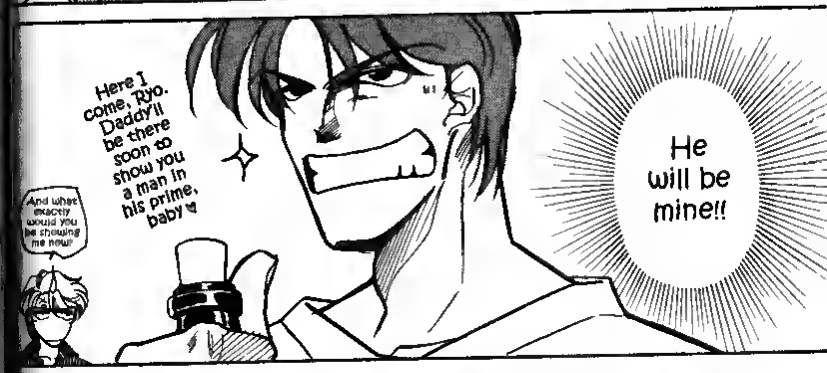

CHEERS.
CHEERS.

OH YEAH. I GUESS WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DECIDE TO DRINK TO SOMETHING BEFORE WE START CLINKING GLASSES, RIGHT?
WAIT A SECOND. WHAT ARE WE DRINKING TO AGAIN?

I'M SURPRISED THE CHIEF LET US HAVE TIME OFF AT THE SAME TIME.
SPEAKING OF WHICH...
WELL THEN, HOW ABOUT WE DRINK TO OUR LONG-AWAITED VACATION.
GULP


Oh yes, let it be known to all that the money I invested in buying off Bikky was well worth it because—


No one's around
And neither are Carol or the chief
JJ's not here
And even better, my ultimate irritant, that little brat Bikky isn't around either!!
Ryo

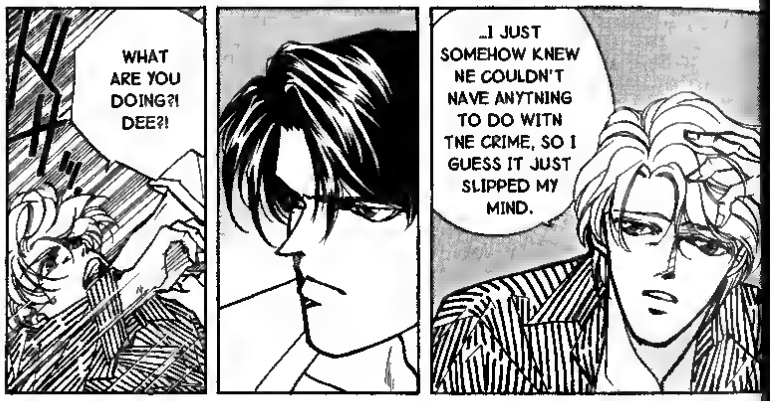

Here I come, Ryo. Daddy'll be there soon to show you a man in his prime, baby ♥
And what exactly would you be showing me now?
He will be mine!!

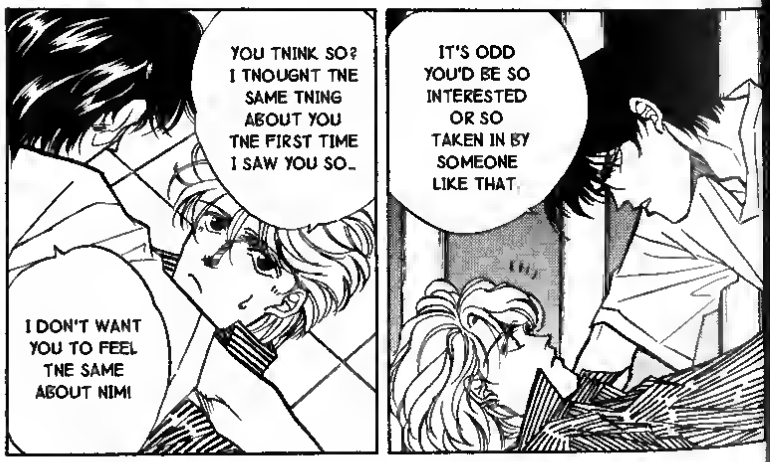
IT'S WAY TOO EARLY FOR BED... WHAT'S UP?
WELL, YEAH.

YO, YOU STILL UP?

COME IN. IT'S OPEN.

I DON'T KNOW. HIS EYES WERE SO SHARP. HE HAD THIS LOOK TO HIM, THIS PIERCING GAZE THAT LEFT AN IMPRESSION ON ME. BUT AT THE SAME TIME...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS BUT...
HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN A WITNESS. OR BETTER YET, THE PERP. WHY DIDN'T YOU...

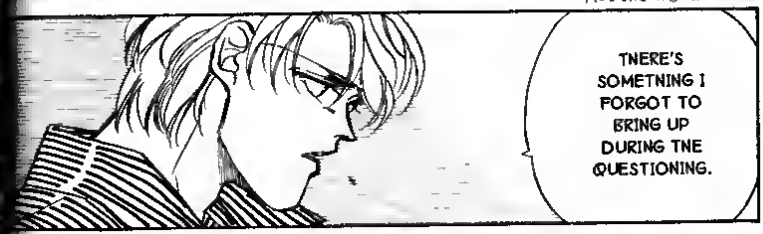


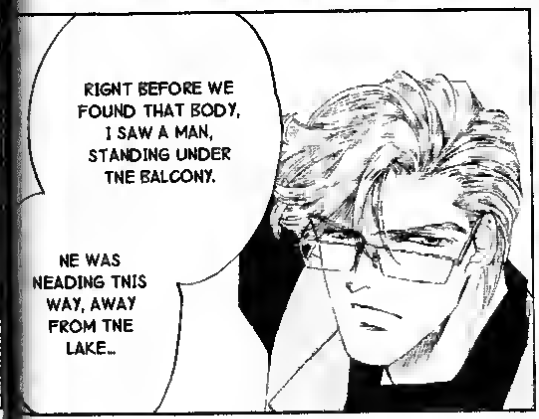

YOU THINK SO? I THOUGHT THE SAME THING ABOUT YOU THE FIRST TIME I SAW YOU SO...
I DON'T WANT YOU TO FEEL THE SAME ABOUT HIM!
IT'S ODD YOU'D BE SO INTERESTED OR SO TAKEN IN BY SOMEONE LIKE THAT.

PLEASE, NOT THAT AGAIN! JEEZ. WE'RE ON VACATION. OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN AGAIN?
JUST STEN A ECOND, DEE.
SAY, DEE... ABOUT THAT BODY WE FOUND THIS AFTERNOON...

Okay asshole. then how about you take an eternal vacation and quit already! And what kind of crack were you smoking to make you think whining from a good-for-nothing idiot like you would get you anything but fired, huh? And stop shaking the desk. It's friggin' annoying!!
I'm begging you, chief! Please lemme have off with Rye. If you don't then I'll quit, I swear!!

He's shaking the desk



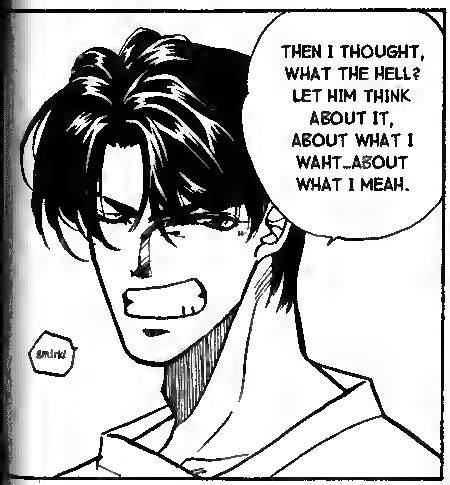


YEP, YOU'RE DEFINITELY HONEST. I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT.
SHUT UP!! SORRY I'M SO FUCKING HONEST! AND STOP LAUGHING!!
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO JUST CONFESS TO STUFF LIKE THAT, DUDE!!
You're too funny, Dear
Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha!

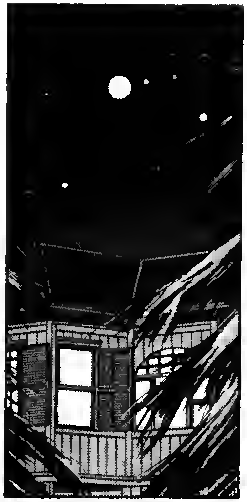
MAN, YOU'RE SO DENSE SOMETIMES!
YOU SAY THAT, BUT I'M NOT TOTALLY SURE WHAT YOU MEAN.
I'M JEALOUS, DAMMIT!!
POUT
WHAT?

YOU'RE AWFULLY QUIET TODAY.
HUH?!
ABOUT YOU. ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT.
ABOUT WHAT?
I'M JUST THINKING...
IT'S HOT LIKE THAT. IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN. IT'S JUST...
IS THAT WHY YOU AREN'T TRYING TO GET OUT OF ME KISSING YOU?
SO I WAS THINKING ABOUT IT, ABOUT WHAT YOU MEANT...
YOU TOLD ME BEFORE TO NEVER "DISMISS" YOU AS A JOKE AGAIN.
WELL, YOU COULD HAVE JUST PUSHED ME AWAY BEFORE GOING INTO ONE OF YOUR QUIET SPELLS, AND THEN YOU WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO ENDURE ANYTHING.
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
YOU'RE WEIRD, YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
Pushing him away. The thought never even crossed my mind...
IS IT REALLY THAT SIMPLE THOUGH?
MMM...
De...
YEAH, IT IS.

Thanks for the meal, man. Terry!
WELL, SHOW'S OVER FOR TODAY.


THEN I THOUGHT, WHAT THE HELL? LET HIM THINK ABOUT IT, ABOUT WHAT I WANT..ABOUT WHAT I MEAN.
Smirk!

GEE, THANKS FOR THE SEXUAL PREMEDITATION. HAVE YOU NO SHAME?
I WAS ORIGINALLY GONNA JUST THROW YOU DOWN AND HAVE MY WAY WITH YOU BUT..



DEE..

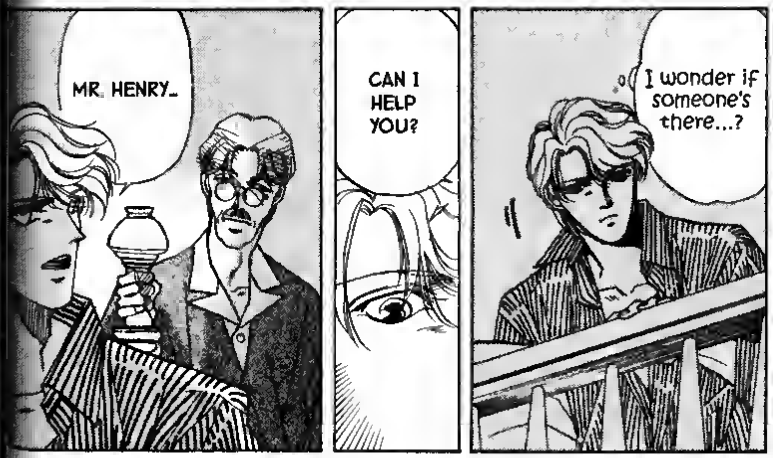
OKAY..
ANYWAYS, DRINKIE DRINKIE TIME COME ON NOW

I GUESS I'LL LET HIM CRASH IN MY ROOM JUST FOR TONIGHT. I BETTER GO SHAG HIS PILLOW.

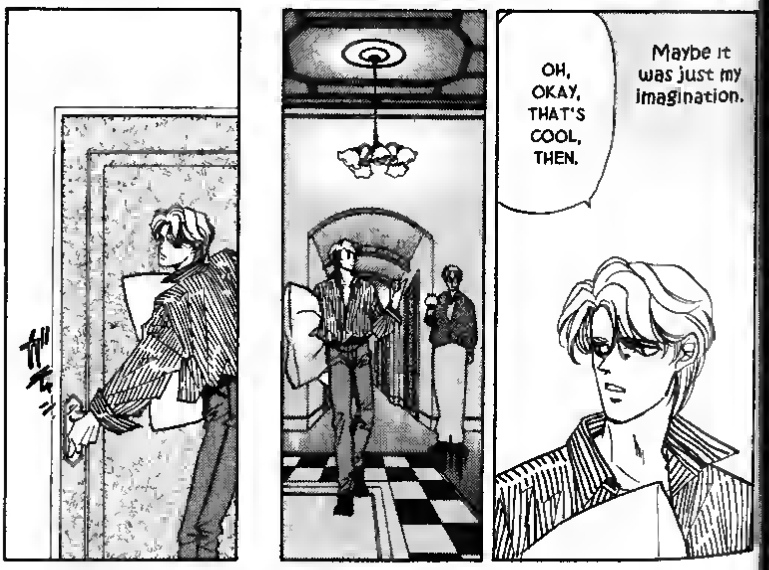
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT FOR DOWNING THAT BOTTLE WITHOUT ANY OF MY HELP, YOU BIG LUSH.
Grumble
Wf!

DEE! WAKE UP! YOU'RE GONNA FREEZE TO DEATH IF YOU FALL ASLEEP OUT HERE. DEE?

?
Close...
What was that? From downstairs?

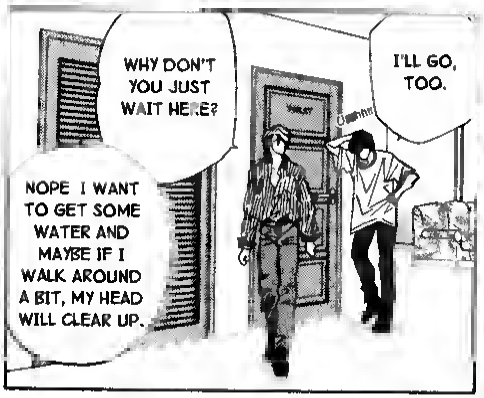

MR. HENRY...
CAN I HELP YOU?
I wonder if someone's there...?

FROM THE FIRST FLOOR?
SORRY FOR WANDERING AROUND BUT I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING FROM THE FIRST FLOOR SO..
WE DON'T HAVE ANY GUESTS STAYING ON THE FIRST FLOOR. OH, BUT WE DO HAVE A NIGHTTIME GUEST CLERK. PERHAPS THAT'S WHO YOU HEARD?


OH, OKAY, THAT'S COOL, THEN.
Maybe it was just my imagination.

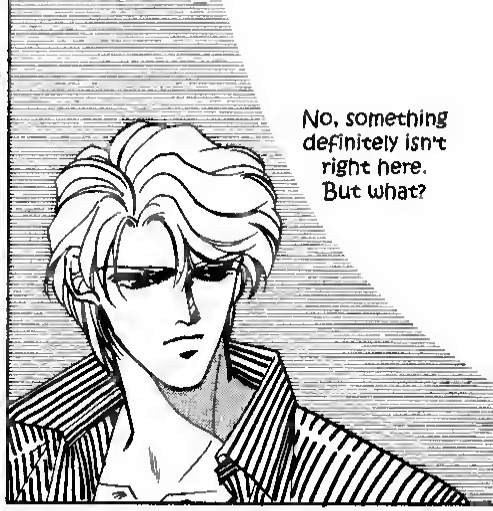
THANKS.. UGH!
YOU WANT A TOWEL?
TOILET

ALL RIGHT ALREADY, I'LL GO ASK FOR SOME ICE, OKAY?
Serves you right by the way!
Au-uu!


WHY DON'T YOU JUST WAIT HERE?
I'LL GO, TOO.
NOPE I WANT TO GET SOME WATER AND MAYBE IF I WALK AROUND A BIT, MY HEAD WILL CLEAR UP.

AWW, COME ON NOW.
MY HEAD. MY POOR ACHING NEAD! TAKE CARE OF ME, WILL YA?
I'M SERIOUS. PWEASE? JUST A WIDDLE BIT?
Nice try

DEE.
RYO..
Clap!


No, something definitely isn't right here. But what?

I THINK I'M GONNA PUKE..
GOOD, YOU WOKE UP. I JUST GOT BACK WITH YOUR PILLOW, TOO.

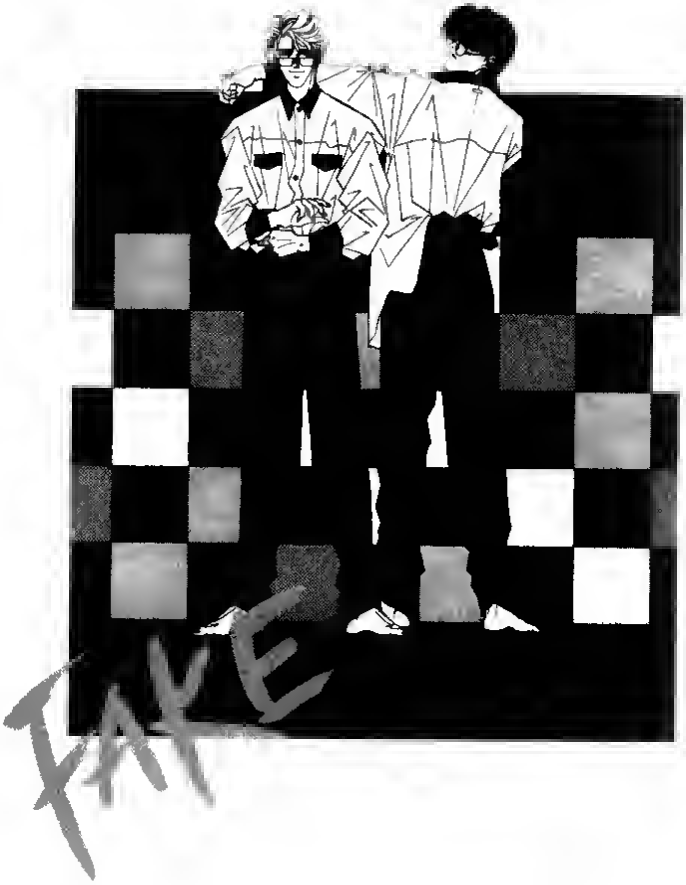
URRGGG!
NOOOOOO!!
T..THE BATHROOM! I GOTTA GET YOU TO THE BATHROOM! YOU CAN PUKE THERE DEE!! WAAHH!! NO, NOT HERE!! SUCK IT BACK IN!!

Waaaa-nHHh!!
W..WAIT! NOLD ON! DON'T PUKE NERE URM..URM..
I FEEL SOOOO GROSS. GONNA BLOW SO MANY CHUNKS..

What?!
As in, blow chunks puking?

Ehhh?!
Wahh-HHh!!
DEE!
I'M FINE, DAMMIT. I JUST SLIPPED ON SOMETHING..
Ouuile!
You okay?
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU TO GO WAIT BACK IN THE ROOM.

NOPE.. IT'S MORE LIKE..
IS IT OIL?
WHAT THE HELL..
AHH?!
DON'T MOVE.
BLOOD!

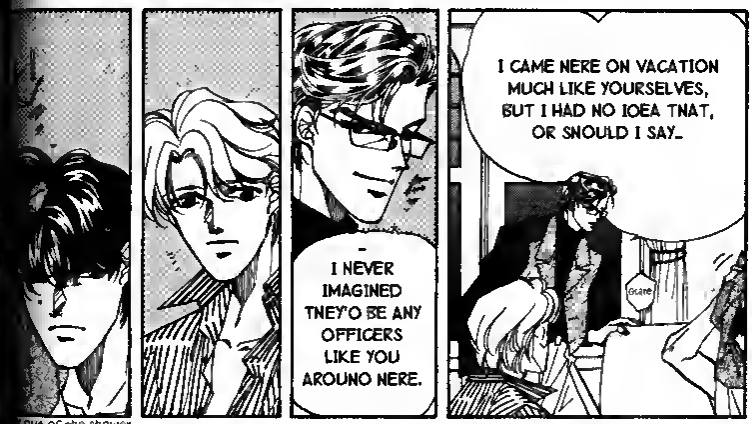

FAKE

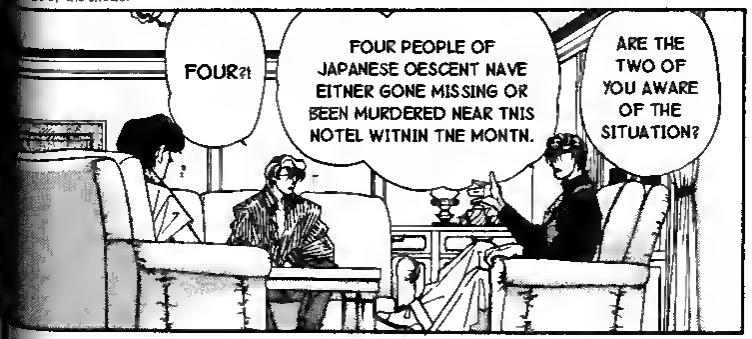
YOU'RE...

FROM THIS AFTERNOON.

SORRY ABOUT THAT. WE'LL GET OUT OF HERE THEH. COME ON, GUYS
PIG'S BLOOO?! THEH THIS IS..
YUCK!
TWITCH
HUH..OH NO, BUT..
YOU GUYS KHOW EACH OTHER?
HEY, YOU GUYS THERE!
CLEAN?
I SPILT SOME PIG'S BLOOO OVER THERE WHEH I WAS CLEAHING UP THE KITCHEH FOR THE HIGHT. IF I OOH'T CLEAH IT UP IH TIME OR TOMORROW, THE OWHER'S GONNA HAVE MY HEAO.
COULO YOU MOVE OUT OF THE WAY A BIT? I CAN'T REALLY CLEAH WITH THE LOT OF YOU SQUATTIHG THERE.
YOU'RE A COP?!

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR, NEW YORK STATE POLICE HEADQUARTERS.
BERKELEY ROSE.

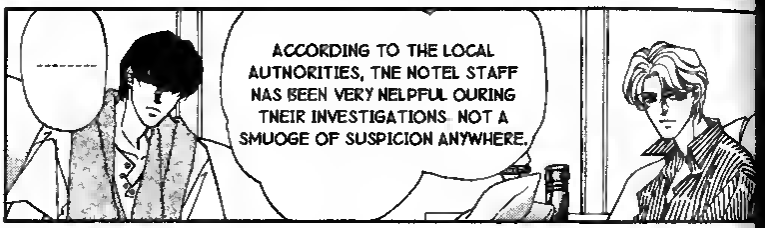

I CAME HERE ON VACATION MUCH LIKE YOURSELVES, BUT I HAD NO IDEA THAT, OR SHOULD I SAY...
I NEVER IMAGINED THEY'D BE ANY OFFICERS LIKE YOU AROUND HERE.
Out of the shower

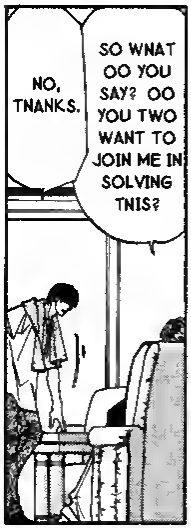

FOUR?!
FOUR PEOPLE OF JAPANESE DESCENT HAVE EITHER GONE MISSING OR BEEN MURDERED NEAR THIS HOTEL WITHIN THE MONTH.
ARE THE TWO OF YOU AWARE OF THE SITUATION?

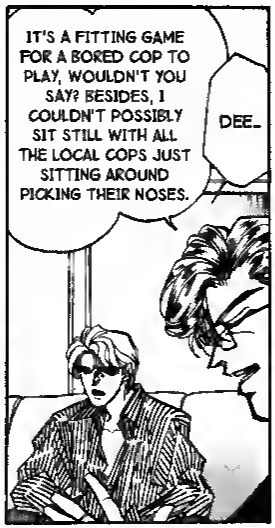
SEEMS LIKE MORE THAN JUST A COINCIDENCE IF YOU ASK ME

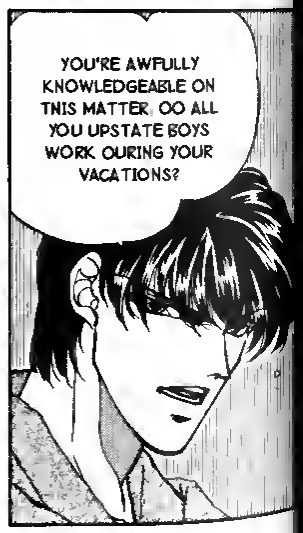
THE WOMAN YOU TWO DISCOVERED YESTERDAY WAS JAPANESE, TOO.

EXACTLY. AND THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN INVESTIGATING THE HOTEL ITSELF. I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING HERE.


.....
ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, THE HOTEL STAFF HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL DURING THEIR INVESTIGATIONS. NOT A SMUDGE OF SUSPICION ANYWHERE.


NO, THANKS.
SO WHAT DO YOU SAY? DO YOU TWO WANT TO JOIN ME IN SOLVING THIS?


IT'S A FITTING GAME FOR A BORED COP TO PLAY, WOULDN'T YOU SAY? BESIDES, I COULDN'T POSSIBLY SIT STILL WITH ALL THE LOCAL COPS JUST SITTING AROUND PICKING THEIR NOSES.
DEE...


YOU'RE AWFULLY KNOWLEDGEABLE ON THIS MATTER, DO ALL YOU UPSTATE BOYS WORK DURING YOUR VACATIONS?

I'M IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITN DEE. POLICE WORK ISN'T A GAME
I UNDERSTAND THAT AS A COP YOU CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND WHILE A CRIME TAKES PLACE RIGNT IN FRONT OF YOUR FACE, BUT AT THE SAME TIME..
Creak
DEE?
GOOD NIGHT
SO TNE LITTLE MOUSE NAS A LION'S BITE DOES NE?
Fu.

POLICE WORK ISN'T SOME SORT OF MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATER, DAMMIT!
ARE YOU IN AGREEMENT WITH YOUR PARTNER TNERE?
DEE!

He looks totally pissed.

But then again that cop Berkeley is everything Dee hates rolled into one...

I CAN'T STAND PEOPLE LIKE HIM. THE WAY HE DOES THINGS, THE WAY HE THINKS...IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN BUT...

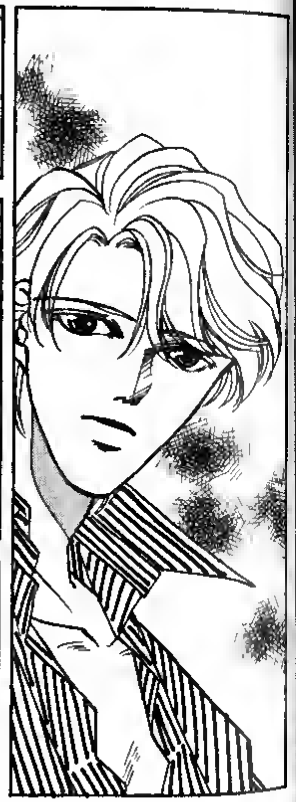
I'M IN COMPLETE DISAGREEMENT WITH WHAT HE SAID. I'M NOT. HE DOES HAVE A POINT AFTER ALL BUT...

IT'S NOT THAT...
HUH?

I JUST DON'T LIKE HIM.

OF COURSE NOT. WELL, NOT TOTALLY
Maybe just a bit but...
Ack
YOU BETTER NOT BE THINKING I'M IMMATURE RIGHT NOW. I CAN TOTALLY READ YOUR EXPRESSION

YOU WOULDN'T BE YOU IF YOU WEREN'T.
I THINK IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO BE LIKE THAT, DEE.



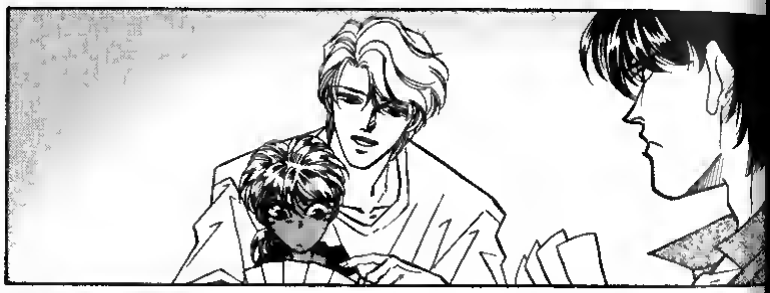
What are you doing?!
You hornball!!!
I'm cured-----!!
FOOL!! LIKE I COULD POSSIBLY SLEEP, MUCH LESS KEEP MY SANITY AFTER YOU GO AND DO SOMETHING UNBELIEVABLY SEXY LIKE THAT!
How could I possibly sleep when you've finally shown your true attracted side after all!!!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?! WHY CAN'T YOU JUST GO TO SLEEP LIKE A GOOD LITTLE BOY?!

OH YEAH. TOTALLY SLIPPED MY MIND.
HA, HA. LOOK, IT'S ALMOST DAWN WHY DON'T YOU SLEEP FOR AWHILE? YOU WERE SICK AFTER ALL REMEMBER?
Ha Ha!
BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK IT'S OKAY? WHY CAN'T I SHAKE THE FEELING THAT YOU'RE JUST MAKING FUN OF ME?
GOOD NIGHT_

Urrggb-bgghh!
THAT WAS JUST BEING, UM, ER, FRIENDLY. I_
I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GONNA PUSH ME DOWN AND HAVE YOUR WAY WITH ME ANYMORE!!
DON'T!! STOP! DEE!! NO!! NO, NO, NO, NO!! BAD TOUCH! BAD DEE!!
You horny beast!!
I TAKE IT ALL BACK, OKAY? I GOTTA USE THIS TIME THAT GOD AND FRANKLIN GAVE ME TO ITS FULLEST IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN. DON'T WORRY THOUGH, YOU'RE IN GOOD, MANLY HANDS, DUDE TRUST ME!!
TRUST YOU?! WITH WHAT?!
Wa, ha, ha, ha, ha.
And come on now, like you didn't know all men were lying dogs!
HMM?!
click
YOU CAN'T STOP THE DEE ENGINE WHEN IT'S ALREADY RUNNING JUST GIVE IT UP ALREADY!! HYO HYO HYO.
WAAAHHHHH!!
STOP IT, DEE!! STOP IT. STOP!! TIME OUT!!
Help! Someone!!
Demon
No one can hear you scream in Endless dude you're screwed
Hiii——!!
NOOOOOOOO!!
Waa-ahh!!
Kyaa-hhh!!
-
I thought they weren't at that "level" yet, smart guy.
Oh yeah? What do you think that means?
Hmmm. Hey, they stopped talking?
Maybe it means they just finished doing it?
WHY DIDN'T YOU COME HELP ME IF YOU WERE HERE!
And what the hell are the two of you doing here anyway?
CAROL!!
BIKKY!!_
Owwie.
Owwww
NO WAY! HE DID HAVE HIM PUSHED DOWN ON THE BED DIDN'T HE?
SEE, WHAT DID I TELL YA? STATUS QUO.
And you know he's no good at wrestling the pounces
Just because she's a little dirty man.
COULD YOU TWO STOP PLACING BETS ON OUR RELATION-SHIP?!
FINE, FINE
NUN. WELL, FINE, THEN I GUESS WE'RE EVEN FOR THIS TIME.
Why you little
Darn it!

Ryo talks a good game but he's a total softie when it comes to kids.
Damn you Bikky Damn you.
You sure?
This one Trust me

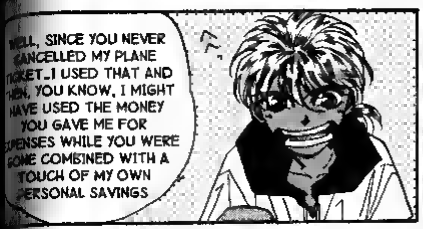
Damn it all.



Meanwhile, back at the 27th Precinct.
Whaaa-aatttt?!

But, oh well. I guess that's another reason I like him so much.
Why's your face all red, Dee? As if being a loser wasn't enough, you're a creepy loser, too.
Dee, it's like, been your turn forever
ACK!

HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO GET HERE ANYWAY, BIKKY?


WELL, SINCE YOU NEVER CANCELLED MY PLANE TICKET..I USED THAT AND THEN, YOU KNOW, I MIGHT HAVE USED THE MONEY YOU GAVE ME FOR EXPENSES WHILE YOU WERE GONE COMBINED WITH A TOUCH OF MY OWN PERSONAL SAVINGS

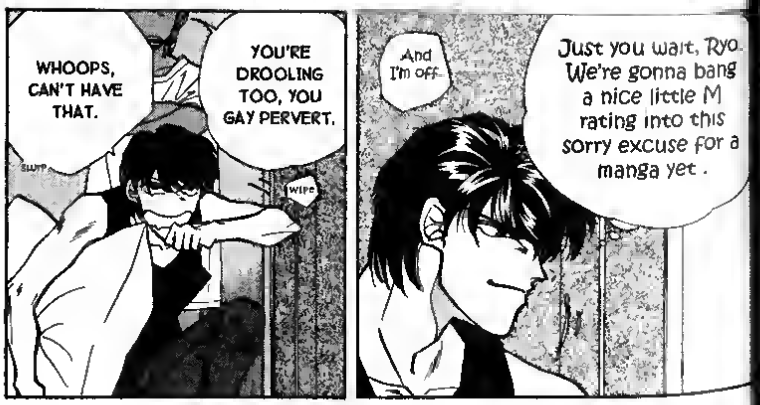
AND DEE, I WON'T GET IN YOUR WAY SO GOOD LUCK MAKING RYO YOURS, OKAY?

I SEE. WELL, I GUESS THANKS FOR THE THOUGHT BUT..

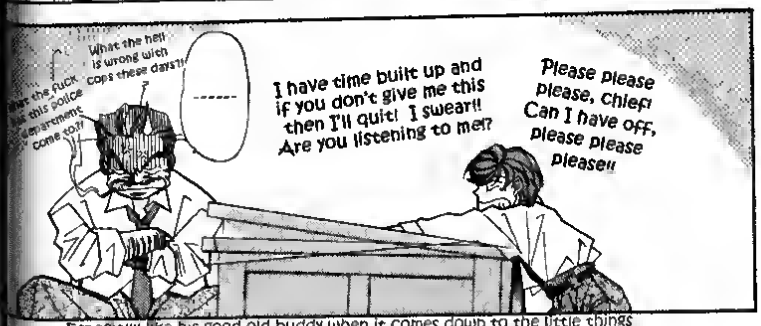
Bu-wa ha ha ha ha!
Kyaahhh!
Serves you right, loser!!
Bu-wa ha ha ha ha!
You demonic brats!
EVERY PART OF THIS SCENARIO SCREAMS THAT YOU TWO NEVER SHOULD HAVE COME HERE, DOESN'T IT?
HUH?!

AND I MIGHT HAVE BORROWED JUST A BIT FROM YOU TOO, RYO. BUT I PROMISE I'LL PAY YOU BACK.
JUST NO PICKING POCKETS, 'KAY?
Aww, man, don't you trust me?
Ka ka ka.
I KNOW, I KNOW. DON'T WORRY, I'LL GO LEGIT TO PAY YOU BACK. DARN.

Fu fu fu. Oh yeah, lights out on the little chillens who are tucked into bed. The sun's shining down on some serious Dee time now. I'll be right ther to tuck you in too, my little Ry
CLENCH


WHOOPS, CAN'T HAVE THAT.
SWIPE
YOU'RE DROOLING TOO, YOU GAY PERVERT.
WIPE
And I'm off.
Just you wait, Ryo. We're gonna bang a nice little M rating into this sorry excuse for a manga yet .

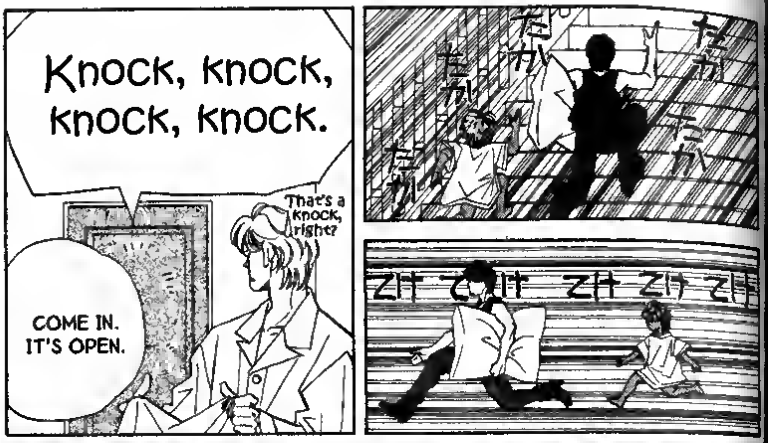
I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMETHING THIS GIGANTAMONGOUS HAPPENED WHILE I WAS AWAY VISITING THE LAPD. LIFE SUCKS!
I THOUGHT YOU KNEW. AND WHAT'S UP WITH THE "THEY'RE NOT EVEN MARRIED" PART?
Girl from LA

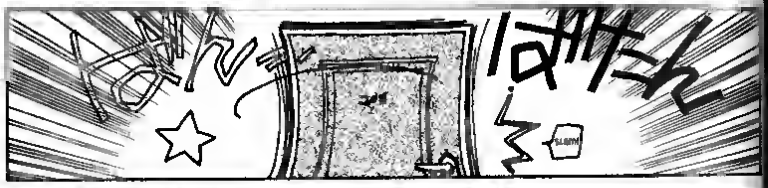

What the hell is wrong with cops these days?!
What the fuck! Has this police department come to?!
I have time built up and if you don't give me this then I'll quit! I swear!! Are you listening to me!?
Please please please, Chief! Can I have off, please please please!!

Especially like his good old buddy when it comes down to the little things

DID YOU HEAR THAT, KID?
IT SOUNDED LIKE A PERSON'S VOICE.
DOES THAT SOUND LIKE CRYING TO YOU?
IT'S COMING FROM DOWN STAIRS-

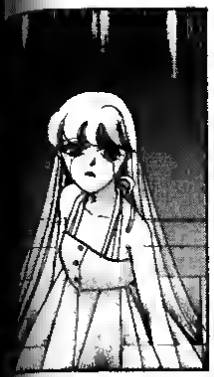
ACK.
GRIN.
WHY DON'T YOU GO USE THE POTTY SO YOU DON'T WET THE BED, YOU FREAKY LITTLE RUG RAT?
I AIN'T SLEEPING!
UP TO SOME-THING FILTHY AS USUAL, I SEE?
DUDE, IT'S JUST 10 PM.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU STILL DOING UP, HUH?
He's not for a kid.
Yeah, bed-time, so scram!


Knock, knock, knock, knock.
That's a knock, right?
COME IN. IT'S OPEN.


Slam!

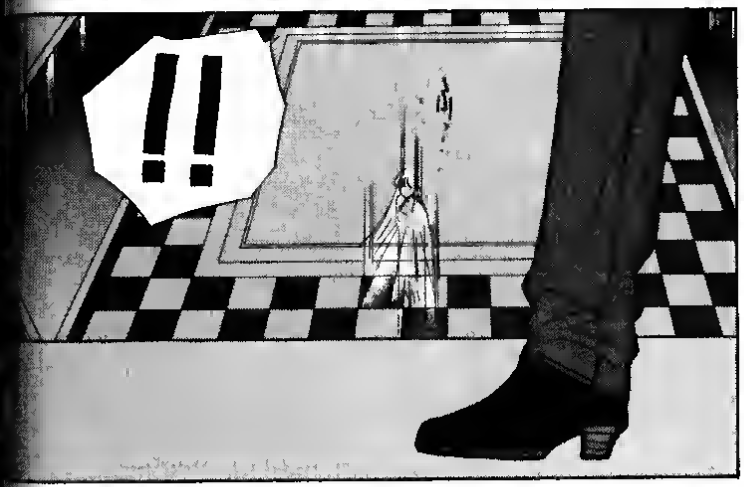
UGYAAA-HHHhhHH-HHHHH!!
Waaaa-HHhh-HHhh!!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, YOU TWO? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST.



But his voice is shaking
H.. HEY, THERE! ARE YOU A..

Gah!


!!

.....

A GHDST!! A GIRL GHDST!! SHE WAS DVER BY THE BDTTDM OF THE STAIRS!!
It was a girl, you know!
LISTEN TO US!! WHAT ELSE COULD IT HAVE BEEN, OTHER THAN A..?!
YOU DID WHAT? AND WHY ARE YDU YELLING?
We did, we did, we did and it was awful!!
AHD THEN BAM!! SHE JUST DISAPPEARED! INTD THIN AIR!! WE WERE SDDDD SCARED!! DMIGAWD!!
Have you heard one damn word we've been screaming?
WE'RE NDT MAKING THIS UP! WE SWEAR IT!! IT WAS A GIRL IN A WHITE DRESS AND SHE WAS STANDING SMACK DAB IN THE MIDDLE DF THE LDBBY DDWNSTAIRS!!
POINT BLANK!
THERE ARE NO SUCH THINGS AS GHOSTS.
The disinterested gaze of the non-believer.
YEAH, I'VE HEARD OF PEOPLE LIKE THAT. NOT AH OUNCE OF BELIEF IN THE PARANORMAL IN THEM IT'S SCARY AND THAT GIVES HIM THE RIGHT TO TELL US TO GO TO BED, HUH?
YUP. THAT'S HOW IT ALWAYS WORKS ISN'T IT? IT'S ALWAYS THE SENSITIVE GUYS YOU'D EXPECT TO BELIEVE IN THINGS LIKE GHOSTS THAT ARE THE UBER-REALISTS WASTING HIS TIME WITH STUPID STORIES, HUH?
And just what are you guys discussing behind my back now?
WHY DDH'T YDU STDP WASTING MY TIME MAKIHG UP STUPID STDRIES LIKE THAT AND GD TD BED, HMM?
It's just your imagination, Bikky. And Dee, that's just pathetic. Even for you.
Hey now!
I THIHK I'LL HANG DUT WITH DEE TOHIGHT. G'NIGHT.
WHERE ARE YDU GDING, BIKKY? I THDUGHT YOU WERE GDING TD SLEEP IN MY ROOM?
AFTER YOU!!
LET'S GO, BIKKY!!
SO I GUESS THEY'RE GETTING ALDNG AFTER ALL? CODL.
Ummmmhh
Ummmmhh
Tossing and turning because of a weird dream
?!

THIS TOWN IS THE CLOSEST TO THE HOTEL BUT IT'S STILL ALMOST TWO MILES AWAY.

THANKS SO MUCH FOR MEETING ME OUT HERE. I WAS CLUELESS ON HOW TO FIND THIS PLACE.

AND THEN A MILE OF THAT YOU CAN'T TAKE A CAR INTO, SO IT'S LUCKY I HAD TO GO FOR A FEW ERRANDS OR WE NEVER WOULD HAVE RUN INTO EACH ANOTHER.

YES. TWO OF MY COLLEAGUES SHOULD ALREADY HAVE CHECKED IN ABOUT TWO DAYS EARLIER.

ARE YOU HERE ON HOLIDAY?

WE'D BETTER HURRY. LOOKS LIKE WE MIGHT BE IN FOR A BIT OF RAIN.

IT'S RIGHT UP THERE, SIR.

I HAD A BIT OF WORK TO FINISH SO I SAID I'D MEET THEM HERE WHEN I WAS DONE.

When did we EVER decide to do that?

You don't! Damn!!

AHH, THE ONES FROM NEW YORK CITY?

YEP, THAT'S THEM ALL RIGHT.

ONE OF THEM IS REALLY CUTE BUT HAS THIS SCOWL PLASTERED ON HIS FACE. THE OTHER ONE IS A SLIGHTLY OUT-OF-IT LOOKING PART-JAPANESE DUDE.

OH? WHICH ONES MIGHT THEY BE?

I HAD NO IDEA HE WAS JAPANESE.

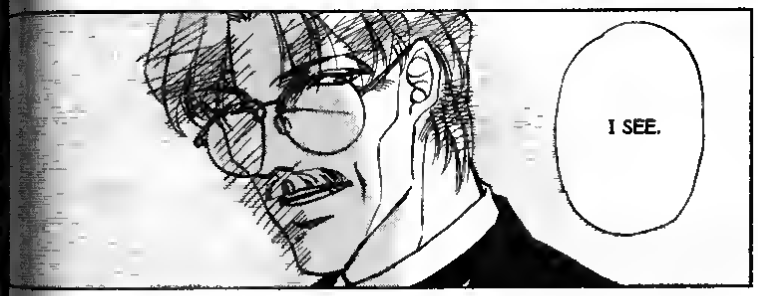
I'm sure everyone here wanted to know that.

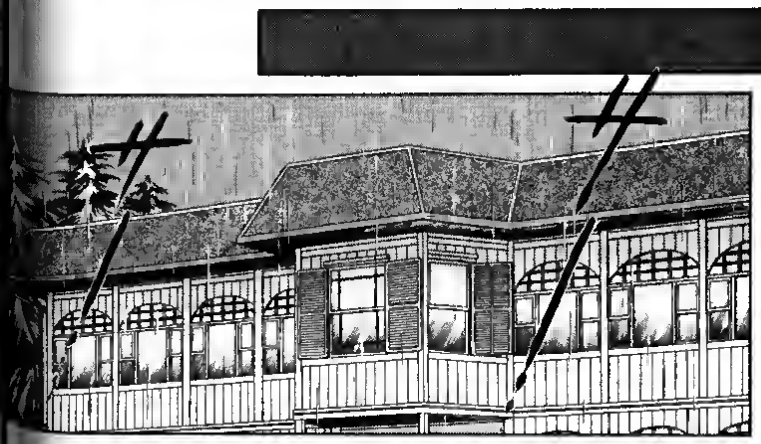
And since we're on the subject, I have blue eyes.

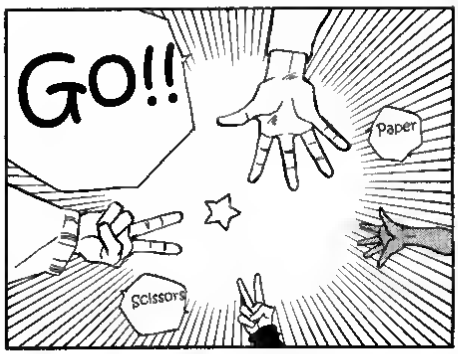
YOU CAN SEE HIS EYES ARE JET BLACK.

YOU CAN'T TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT HIS FACE BUT IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY,

RYO..
YEP, RANDY MACLEAN. BUT HIS JAPANESE NAME IS RYO.
It's really hard to pronounce, don't you think?
HIS NAME WAS.. RANDY IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY.

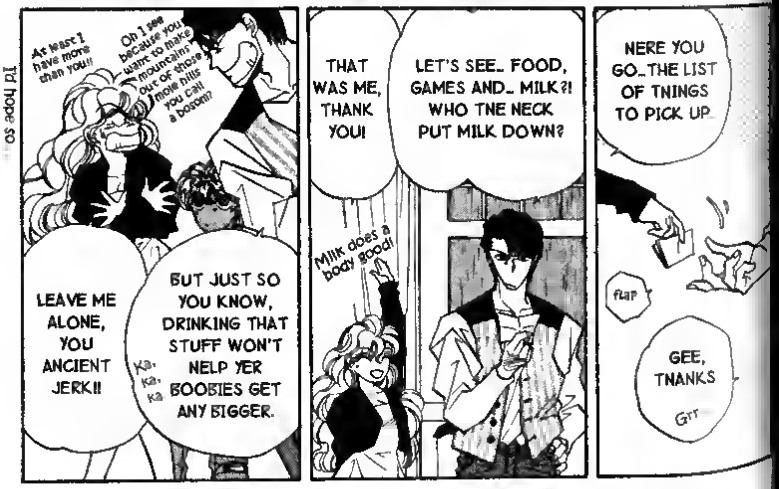

I SEE.




GO!!
Paper
Scissors

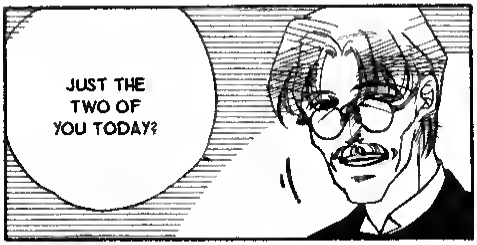
Ready... set...

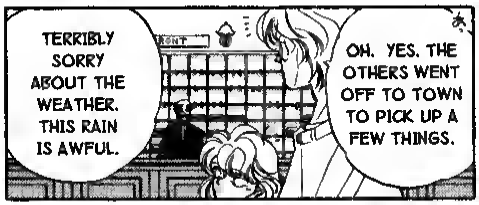
Now, now, Carol
AND IT JUST HAD TO BE THE MOST HUMILIATING WAY OF LOSING TOO, DIDN'T IT!?!
GRRRrrrrRRRR-RRrawwwwrr!!
I can't believe I lost!!!
AND THAT JUST MEANS YOUR BRAIN'S AS THIN AS PAPER
Because you lost with paper.
Huh? How? I don't get it?
DUE TO AN UNEXPECTED DOWNPOUR, THE HIKING TRIP WAS PUT ON HOLD. SINCE OUR QUARTET STILL NEEDED SUPPLIES, THEY DECIDED TO CHOOSE THE UNLUCKY PAIR WHO WOULD HEAD INTO TOWN BY ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS!


At least I have more than you!!
Oh I see because you want to make mountains out of those moleHills you call a bosom?
LEAVE ME ALONE, YOU ANCIENT JERK!!
BUT JUST SO YOU KNOW, DRINKING THAT STUFF WON'T NELP YER BOOBIES GET ANY BIGGER.
Ka, ka, ka
THAT WAS ME, THANK YOU!
LET'S SEE.. FOOD, GAMES AND.. MILK?! WHO TNE NECK PUT MILK DOWN?
Milk does a body good!
NERE YOU GO..THE LIST OF TNINGS TO PICK UP.
flap
GEE, TNANKS
Grr

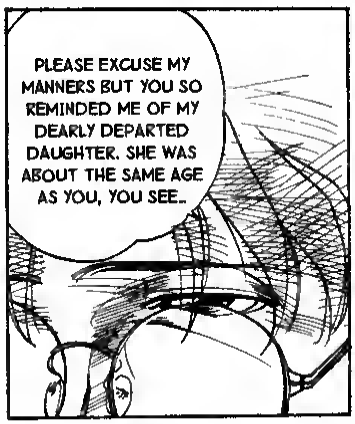
LET'S GO, BIKKY.
Make sure to bundle up so you don't catch a cold.
YUP.
THE RAIN LOOKS PRETTY BAD OUT THERE. BE CAREFUL, OKAY?
ALL RIGHT, WE'LL BE BACK IN A LITTLE WHILE THEN.
YUP, YUP.
ガチャ
He was just about to knock too
Dee!!
Lucky day!!

J... JJ?!
HUH?
Yep.
RYO?
Waaahhhhh!!
W-WAIT! HOLD ON A SECOND, JJ!! IT'S ME!! RYO! NOT DEE!!
AND NOW, TO CELEBRATE THIS MOMENT WITH A KISS.
HmmMM?!
I MISSED YOU SOOOOOOO MUCH, DEE!!
I THINK I WILL. HERE'S MY LUGGAGE IF YOU DON'T MIND. ROOM 209.
THEY'RE GOING INTO TOWN TO PICK UP A FEW THINGS. WHY DON'T YOU GO WITH THEM?
Oh, and before I forget to say this later, going off on vacation, just the two of you? That's SO rude! And it was very rude of you not to tell me
The key
HEY!! DEE!! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
The Architect
That Editor
DASH!

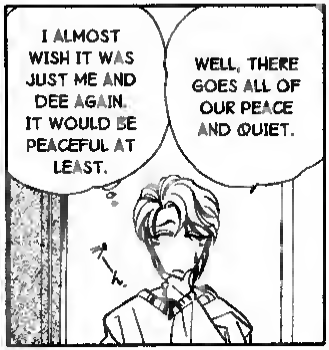

JUST THE TWO OF YOU TODAY?


TERRIBLY SORRY ABOUT THE WEATHER. THIS RAIN IS AWFUL.
OH. YES. THE OTHERS WENT OFF TO TOWN TO PICK UP A FEW THINGS.

I THINK YOU MOST CERTAINLY WILL BE ABLE TO, MISS.
GUESS WE MIGHT GET TO GO HIKING YET.
BUT I THINK THE FORECAST TOMORROW CALLS FOR SUN.


PLEASE EXCUSE MY MANNERS BUT YOU SO REMINDED ME OF MY DEARLY DEPARTED DAUGHTER. SHE WAS ABOUT THE SAME AGE AS YOU, YOU SEE..

I'LL BE 13 THIS YEAR. WHY?
MIGHT I INQUIRE YOUR AGE, MISS?
How old did you think I was?


I ALMOST WISH IT WAS JUST ME AND DEE AGAIN. IT WOULD BE PEACEFUL AT LEAST.
WELL, THERE GOES ALL OF OUR PEACE AND QUIET.

Please wait for me, Dee!!!

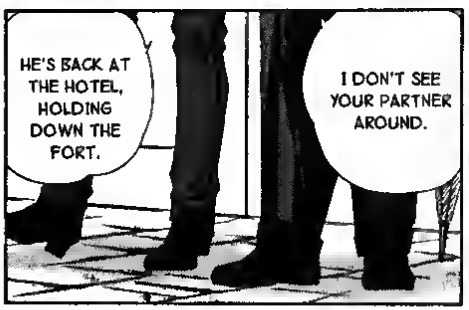
OH, UM, SURE. LET'S GO.
Hah?
HEY, RYO. CAN WE GO CHECK OUT THE TEAROOM, PLEASE?
I want a spot of tea
Eh, heh.

Usha sha sha...
Uhh!
Then again, maybe not. Ack. All the memories are coming back.
Nope. I must never ever be left alone with him again.

Whoa.
WOULD YOU SHUT UP? IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SHORT, SO QUIT BITCHING. YOU WANTED TO TAG ALONG, SO YOU GET TO CARRY THE STUFF.
I CAN'T REALLY SEE WHERE I'M GOING COULD YOU HELP ME? PRETTY PLEASE?
DEE!!
Singing in the rain~
WILL DO, DEE.
Water
HERE YOU GO. BUY YOURSELF A JUICE OR SOMETHING. AND SNAG ME SOME COFFEE.
We've been walking for forever
YO, DEE I'M THIRSTY.
A COKE. AND WHADDAYA MEAN, YOU SUPPOSE?
WHAT DO YOU WANT, JJ? I SUPPOSE I'LL GET YOU SOMETHING TOO.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, ME TOO.
YES, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. DARJEELING PLEASE. WHAT ABOUT YOU, CAROL?
AAH, YES, ABOUT THE TEAROOM. WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO BRING YOU SOME TEA WHILE YOU'RE THERE?
HMM. ORANGE PEKOE, I THINK.
PLEASE DON'T BE. IT'S AS IF I'M SEEING HER AGAIN IN YOUR FACE, MY DEAR.
I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT.
Sounds cool!! Thanks so much, Mr. Henry
And why don't I bring you some cakes as well. I have a very delectable rare cheesecake that's to die for.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR ROSE.

ONCE A DICK, ALWAYS A DICK, EH?
I don't have any diseases either, you ass, but thanks for asking!
And I don't appreciate you grouping me with your kind
NOPE, UNLIKE YOU, I DON'T HAVE ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, SO NO.


HE'S BACK AT THE HOTEL, HOLDING DOWN THE FORT.
I DON'T SEE YOUR PARTNER AROUND.

DEE LAYTNER. WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE? YOU SICK OR SOMETHING?
AND YOU ARE?

HMM?

click

HOSPITAL
Isn't that?

HUH?! WHERE YOU GOING, DEE?
JJ, WAIT THERE FOR BIKKY, WILL YA?
LL BE HT BACK.

I SEE...
DON'T BE SO DISAPPOINTED.
GOSH. HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY KNOW I PREFERRED HIM OVER THE LIKES OF YOU?
Why can't you just back off from him, huh?
SORRY TO BURST YOUR BUBBLE THERE! YOU LITTLE...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING WALKING AROUND WITH THAT?! AND THANKS FOR REMINDING ME
I HAD IT CHECKED OUT. TO FIND OUT WHERE IT REALLY CAME FROM...
THAT'S...
HMM? AHH, IT'S THE BLOOD YOU SLIPPED AND FELL IN LAST NIGHT.
DON'T TELL ME. IT'S...
YOU'RE A QUICK ONE, AREN'T YOU?
AS WE BOTH SUSPECTED...IT'S HUMAN BLOOD AFTER ALL.
THEY DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHOM IT'S FROM BUT THERE'S A HIGH POSSIBILITY IT CAME FROM SOMEONE OF JAPANESE DESCENT
JAPANESE DESCENT?
EVERYONE MURDERED OR MISSING AROUND THIS AREA WAS JAPANESE
AND GUESS WHAT, BRIGHT EYES? ALL OF THEM DIED EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER CHECKING INTO THAT HOTEL
SO EVERY SINGLE VICTIM CAME FROM OUR HOTEL? HMMM...
AND ONE LAST THING. I HEARD THIS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE HOSPITAL BUT...

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
カチャ
WELL, TO BE QUITE HONEST, THE ONLY GUESTS WE HAVE STAYING HERE NOW IS YOUR PARTY, RYO.
I WAS WONDERING, BECAUSE OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY OTHER GUESTS HERE
CAROL?
MMM.
I DO BEG YOUR PARDON. ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS MENTIONED IT TO ME.
カチャ
OIO I.. I DON'T QUITE REMEMBER TELLING YOU THAT WAS MY NAME.

OH DEAR PERHAPS YOU SHOULD HELP HER BACK TO HER ROOM?
I, I THINK..
ARE YOU FEELING ALL RIGHT?
I, I DON'T KNOW. I JUST GOT REALLY SLEEPY ALL OF A SUDDEN.
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
OF COURSE, SIR. WHICH ROOM WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO BRING THAT TO?
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M SORRY TO BOTHER YOU AGAIN BUT WOULD YOU MIND BRINGING SOME ICE AND WATER UP TO MY ROOM PLEASE?
OF COURSE, SIR.
MY ROOM. NUMBER IS 206.

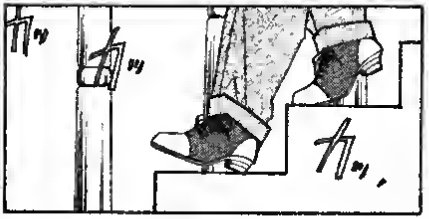
REHARD? AS IH THE HOTEL OWHER, REHARD?
Brrrr!! It was his daughter's ghost!!
Which means the ghost I saw at the foot of the stairs was...
TURNS OUT THEY WERE ALL OF JAPANESE DESCENT. SHE WAS ONLY 18 YEARS OLD WHEN IT HAPPENED.
SEEMS THAT FOUR, MAYBE FIVE YEARS AGO, SOME OF THE GUESTS THAT STAYED AT THAT HOTEL WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BRUTAL MURDER OF HIS ONLY DAUGHTER. THEY CAUGHT THE PEOPLE WHO DID IT RIGHT AWAY.
13?!
IF I COULD CONTINUE, PLEASE? THE FIRST TIME A JAPANESE PERSON WAS MURDERED IN THE AREA WAS FOUR OR FIVE YEARS AGO AS WELL. QUITE A COINCIDENCE, DON'T YOU THINK?
STILL. JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE ALL JAPANESE... THAT MAY HOT BE THE WHOLE PICTURE
HE DOES HAVE A RATHER STRONG MOTIVE, DOESN'T HE?
YOU'RE SAYING THE OWNER'S OUR BAD GUY?
What the?!
HOT THAT I CAH TELL. DOESH'T MATTER HOW OLD THEY ARE OR IF THEY'RE MALE OR FEMALE. JUST AS LOHG AS THEY'RE JAPAHESE
SAY THE PERSON'S JAPANESE. DOES ANYTHING ELSE MATTER? ARE THERE ANY OTHER CHARACTERISTICS HE LOOKS FOR?
WHAT THE HELL'S GOIHG OH HERE?!
I'M GOING BACK!! CALL THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND GET THEM TO THE HOTEL ASAP!!
WHAT?!
RYO'S PART JAPANESE, YOU IDIOT!!

Hey!! Wait up!! Thief!! Gimme back my bike!! It's mine, dammit!!

Go visit the NYPD 27th Precinct Investigations D...
Who the hell does he think he is!? James Bond!?!
We're in the flippin' mountains of England, ya dumb ass!

GUESS I'LL JUST GO GET IT MYSELF.

I WONDER WHAT'S TAKING HIM SO LONG WITH THE ICE...



HEY YOU!! YOU THERE!!
Me?
HUH?!

Woa!!
I'M JUST GONNA BORROW THIS FOR A SEC!!

GET OVER IT, DUDE. SHUT UP!
HEY!! THAT'S MY BIKE!! I STILL HAVEN'T EVEN PAID IT OFF!!

My body won't...
Something's wrong.
WON'T LISTEN TO YOU? BUT OF COURSE IT WON'T. NOT AFTER ALL THAT ANESTHETIC I LACED YOUR TEA WITH.
RENARD...
HENRY...

?!
What's wrong with me? I feel so dizzy.
Waahh !!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!

Grrrr ....
OH, NO, OF COURSE NOT. JUST GO AHEAD AND KILL ME. I DON'T THINK SO.
AS IF!!
I HOPE YOU WON'T THINK TOO BADLY OF THIS, RYO

AWHILE BACK, OH, I'D SAY, FOUR OR FIVE YEARS AGO, IN OUR VERY FIRST YEAR, WE HAD SOME SPECIAL GUESTS. A GROUP OF THREE MEN WHO STAYED WITH US..
OF THEM WERE RT-JAPANESE, THOSE MEN.
D YES, I AS STILL NG ON THE P FLOOR F THIS HOTEL EN. JUST MY DAUGHTER AND ME.
THOSE THREE MEN..
THEY SAW ALL THAT IN HER AS WELL, AHD TOOK QUITE AN INTEREST IH HER.
THEN ONE DAY..
I FOUND HER IN THE GARDEN.
HE WAS HORRIBLY UTILATED UT STILL, I EW EXACTLY AT THEY HAD ONE TO HER.
SHE WAS ONLY 13 YEARS OLD. THE LIVIHG IMAGE OF MY WIFE.
SO BEAUTIFUL. SO PURE SO KIND. SHE WAS EVERYTHING TO ME.
JAPANESE PEOPLE. AND SO..
MY DAUGHTER WAS KILLED BY *YOUR* PEOPLE.

DON'T MAKE THIS HARDER THAN IT HAS TO BE, RYO.

SO IT WAS YOU WHO MURDERED ALL THOSE PEOPLE AROUND HERE?!
Four people of Japanese descent have either gone missing or been murdered.

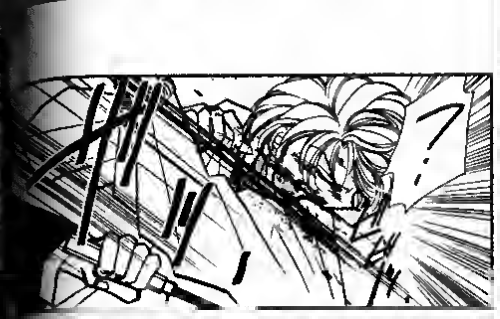
Grrr ...

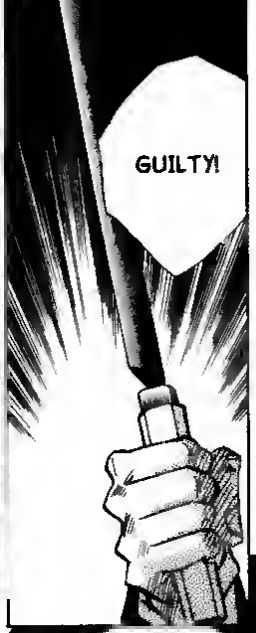
Gaaa-hh!!

Arrggh

!!

!?




GUILTY!

probably
the best
to be
ng about
his but—

I MUST ADMIT. YOU PUT UP QUITE A FIGHT DON'T YOU?
BUT THIS IS GETTING OLD. GOOD DAY!!

I am part Japanese, aren't I? I think this is where I say, "Oh shit!"

YOU ALL RIGHT THERE, RYO?
DON'T MOVE!
YEAH, I THINK SO.
DON'T WORRY, HE JUST GRAZED ME. I'M FINE.
OH. THIS THING?
HOLY SHIT THAT LOOKS BAD.
DEE!!
SAY YOUR PRAYERS, DICK-HEAD!!
HIIIYA!!

MARIA?!
Huh...?!
RYO!!
DEE?!

COOL.
WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK UP TO YOUR ROOM AND WORRY ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE...LIKE PATCHING UP YOUR PARTNER

GEE, TNANKS.

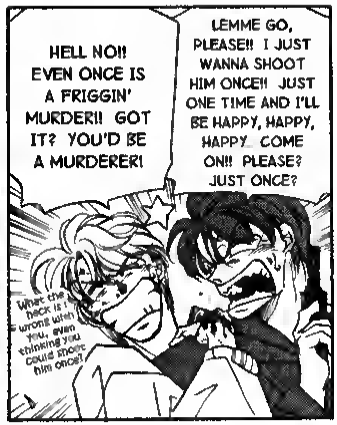
JUST REMEMBER YOU OWE ME ONE, OFFICER.

WELL, YEAH YOU REMEMBER THAT SPOT WHERE SHE WAS STANDING? WHEN WE FIRST SAW HER? WELL?
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE?

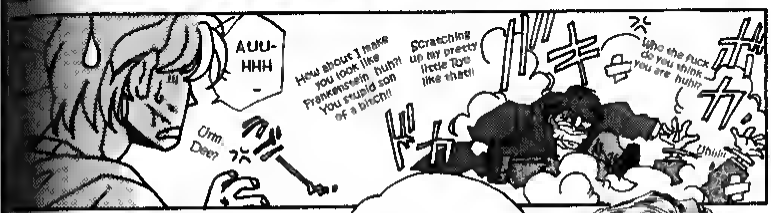
YEAH, IT WAS NIS DAUGHTER'S GHOST, RIGNT?
DID YOU NEAR ABOUT TNE GHOST?
YEAH, BUT TNERE'S MORE. CHECK TNIS OUT.

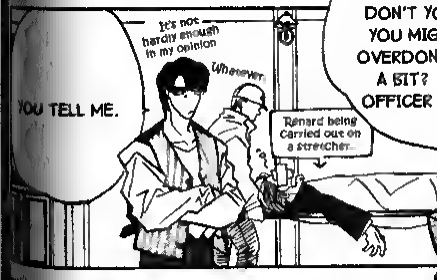
WNAT'S UP, BIKKY?
DEE! DEE!!

EASY NOW. CALM DOWN, ROX. TRY TO REMEMBER, BUDDY. MURDER IS BAD OKAY?


HELL NO!! EVEN ONCE IS A FRIGGIN' MURDER!! GOT IT? YOU'D BE A MURDERER!
LEMME GO, PLEASE!! I JUST WANNA SHOOT HIM ONCE!! JUST ONE TIME AND I'LL BE HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY... COME ON!! PLEASE? JUST ONCE?
What the heck is wrong with you, even thinking you could shoot him once!!

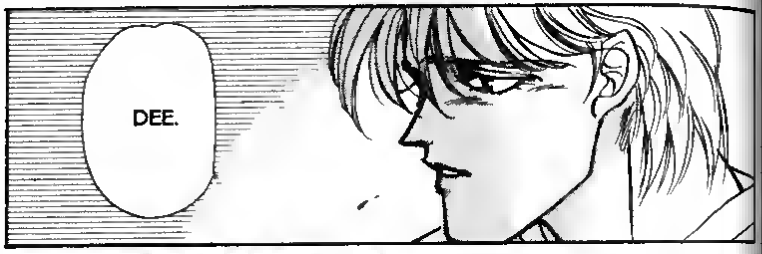
NUH? WH?! DEE?
HOLD ON
TOSS


AUU-HHH
How about I make you look like Frankenstein, huh?! You retarded son of a bitch!!
Scratching up my pretty little Tye like that!
Who the fuck do you think you are huh?!
Uhhh
Umm. Dee?


It's not hardly enough in my opinion
Whenever.
YOU TELL ME.
Renard being carried out on a stretcher.

NUH?
LISTEN...I'LL TAKE CARE OF TNE MINOR DETAILS DOWN NERE.

EVEN IF TNAT WAS IN SELF-DEFENSE, DON'T YOU TNINK YOU MIGHT HAVE OVERDONE IT JUST A BIT? NMMM? OFFICER LAYTNER?

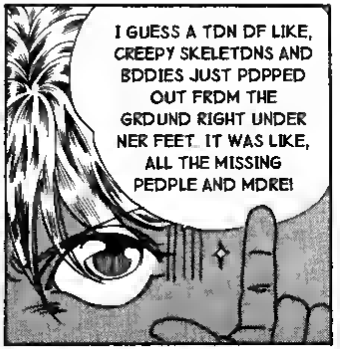

DEE.

I MEAN IT.

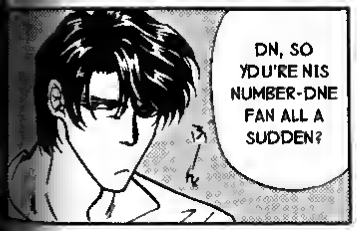
WELL, GDD! I MEAN, MY HEART STDPPED COLD IN MY CHEST.

WHEN.. WHEN I REMEMBERED YOU WERE PART-JAPANESE..

That totally creeps my ass out!! Why'd you have to go and tell me that, huh?
I almost shit my pants!
?


I GUESS A TDN DF LIKE, CREEPY SKELETDNS AND BDDIES JUST PDPPED OUT FRDM THE GRDUND RIGHT UNDER NER FEET. IT WAS LIKE, ALL THE MISSING PEDPLE AND MDRE!

I DON'T KNOW.
NE TURNED DUT TD BE A PRETTY DKAY GUY, HUN? THAT ASSISTANT INSPECTDR. WNAT WAS HIS NAME? BERKELEY?


DN, SO YDU'RE NIS NUMBER-DNE FAN ALL A SUDDEN?

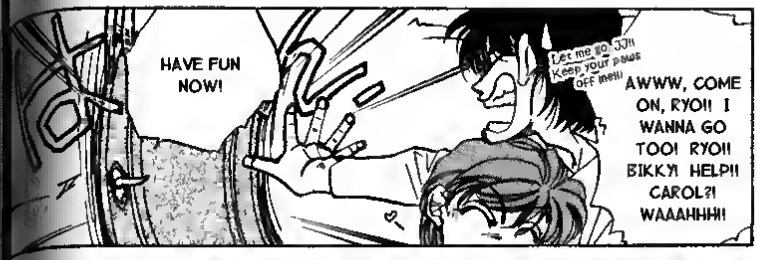
?

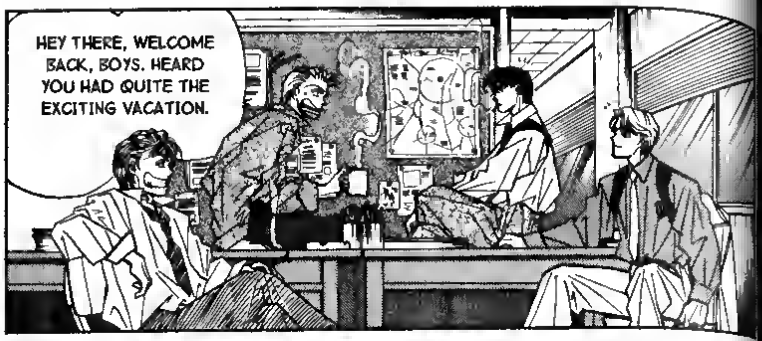
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST-

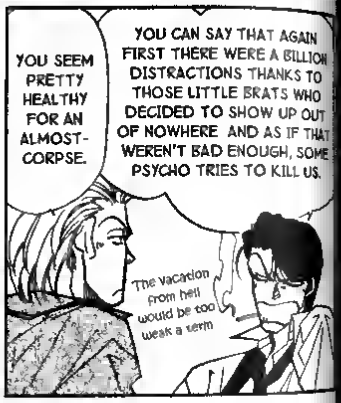
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THANKS TO HIM, WE GOT OFF WITH HARDLY ANY QUESTIONING FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.
PLUS, YOU DIDN'T GET SLAPPED WITH THAT LITTLE CRIME CALLED UNJUSTIFIABLE SELF-DEFENSE? YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN SHIPPED OFF IN HANDCUFFS RIGHT NEXT TO RENARD!
IT JUST SEEMED LIKE HE HAD SOME ULTERIOR MOTIVES TO ME. I CAN'T STAND THE WAY HE LOOKS AT YOU.

I KNOW.
Thanks, Dee.
DEE!! YOU ALL RIGHT?!
!!
SKID

HEY, DUMB ASS!! THE ONLY ONE THAT GOT HURT WAS, RYO, DAMMIT!! BUT YOUR IDEA ROCKS SO WHY DON'T YOU GO KILL YOURSELF FOR FUN?
WERE YOU HURT ANYWHERE? I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED WHILE I WAS AROUND!! IF ANYTHING EVER HAPPENED TO YOU, I, I'D..I WELL I'D JUST WANT TO DIE WITH YOU!! WAAAHHH!!
GAAHHHHHHH!! GET OFF ME, DAMMIT!! LET GO ALREADY!!
I THOUGHT SOMETHING BAD HAD HAPPENED TO YOU, DEE, SO I..I..I WAS SOOOOO, SO, SO, SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU!!
And what's with you barging in on us every single time things are going just right, huh!?
Grr
THAT'S NICE.
AHH, YEAH, NOTHING MAJOR.
OH, I SEE YOU ALL RIGHT, RYO?
Shocker. You actually asked me how I'm doing, huh?
Get your paws off me.
Wake up!
Hey!
Hmmm
WHY DON'T WE GO NEXT DOOR AND GET SOMETHING TO DRINK, HMM? BIKKY? CAROL?
YEP, I'M FINE NOW, THANKS, GUYS.
YOU'RE REALLY, REALLY OKAY?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, RYO?
BIKKY. CAROL.
RYO.



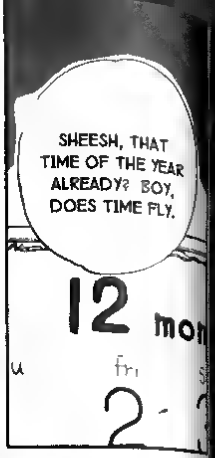



YOU SEEM PRETTY HEALTHY FOR AN ALMOST-CORPSE.
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN FIRST THERE WERE A BILLION DISTRACTIONS THANKS TO THOSE LITTLE BRATS WHO DECIDED TO SHOW UP OUT OF NOWHERE AND AS IF THAT WEREN'T BAD ENOUGH, SOME PSYCHO TRIES TO KILL US.
The vacation from hell would be too weak a term

Are you okay, Ryo? Ooh! You got a little scratch on your face How could they!! These vicious, naughty brutes!! You better take better care of yourself the next time you go anywhere
Why you little
What ever

The Precinct Idol

I GUESS MR. BIG SNOT REQUESTED THE CHIEF'S POSITION PERSONALLY.
YUP. AND THEY TURNED THE CASE OVER TO SOME BIG SNOT FROM THE STATE POLICE.
WHA-?! JUST LIKE THAT?
HE GOT REASSIGNED ALL OF A SUDDEN.
RUMOR IS, HE'S GOT SOME SORT OF CONNECTION TO THE TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN.
WAIT, YOU CAN JUST REQUEST SOMETHING LIKE THAT AND HAVE THE CHIEF OF POLICE REASSIGNED? HOLY SHIT!!
WHAT'S BECAUSE OUR CHIEF'S NO BETTER THAN A SHARKY OLD BADGER. WHAT DID THEY REALLY EXPECT FROM A BUNCH OF LOSERS LIKE US? HA, HA, HA!!
NOT TO MENTION WE'VE GOT A CRAPTACULAR ARREST RATIO COMPARED TO THE STATS ON THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF CRIMES COMMITTED OVER HERE. ESPECIALLY OUR GOOD OLE INVESTIGATIONS DEPARTMENT
きゃはははははは
HEY, COME ON, DEE. WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, HUH? HE'S NOT A SHARK, HE'S MORE LIKE A BIG OLD SEA LION. YUP! DEFINITELY GOT THE SLOW MOVEMENTS OF AN ELEPHANT SEAL.
OR EVEN A SLOTH. WHAT'S THAT OLD MAN MONSTER? BIGFOOT!
Ha!
NOW, WHY WOULD A PROMISING YOUNG DUDE GO OUT OF HIS WAY TO BECOME THE CHIEF OF SOME TEENY TINY PRECINCT? THEY CAN'T POSSIBLY BE PAYING THE STATE POLICE LESS THAN WHAT THEY PAY US COPS.
I SAW HIM IN THE LOCKER ROOM JUST AWHILE AGO. HE SEEMED LIKE A PRETTY YOUNG GUY STILL.
THIS WAY PLEASE, CHIEF ROSE.
ALL RIGHT, A BIT OF RESPECT, DORKS. THE NEW GUY'S HERE TO SAY A FEW WORDS TO YOUR SORRY LOT. NOW LISTEN UP GOOD! OR ELSE!
You bunch of good for nothing idiots!
GRRRRrrrRRRrrr.
Owww
Dooh
Ack
ROSE?!
THE NAME'S BERKELEY ROSE. AS OF TODAY, I'LL BE WORKING WITH THE 27TH PRECINCT.



SEE YOU AGAIN.

act 0
FAKE
フェイク

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH ALL THIS STUFF, DEE?
AND A BOX OF POTATO CHIPS.
NO QUESTIONS YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH HOW MUCH, OLD MAN?

FAKE

ANO THAT'S SUPPOSED TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER?
OON'T WORRY NOTHING BAO'LL HAPPEN TO YOU SO LONG AS YOU STICK CLOSE TO ME.
I HEARD TNIS WASN'T EXACTLY ONE OF THE FRIENDLIEST NEIGHBORHOOOS IN TOWN
IF YA WANNA LIVE, YOU BETTER LEAVE YOUR WALLET ANO ANYTNING ELSE OF VALUE WITN ME!
DEE!
YO.
LIKE YOU'O EVER CATCH ME WALKING AROUNO WITN ANYTNING OF VALUE, THOMAS.!
HUH?
Eee?!

HEY, GUYS! GET OVER HERE! IT'S DEE!!
HEY, HE'S RIGHT!
IT IS DEE!!
DEE!!
DEE?!
OH YEAH, ANO TNIS IS MY PARTNER, RYO.
OH, HI THERE.
Heh heh.
I'M TNOMAS. NICE TA MEETCHA
HE'S LIKE A MINI-DEE.
GOOO. LET'S GO THEN.
HOW THE HELL DO YOU THINK SHE'S DOING? DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE'LL BE SHUTTING THAT YAP OF HERS ANYTIME SOON.
NEY GUYS. LOOKING GOOD NOW'S TNE PENGUIN NOLDING UP, THOMAS?
Um, yeah Nice to meet you
Are you one of Dee's Friends?

I had no idea he was an orphan.
N...No, you never once...

Dee !!

SHEESH, I'M NOT A KID ANYMORE!!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING, PENGUIN, NOW? YOU'LL ADDRESS ME AS MOTHER, YOU LITTLE BRAT.
Ou, ou, ou, ou, ou, okay? Mother, ou, okay? I got it.

HA, HA. HAVEN'T CAUGHT ONE COLD YET THIS YEAR, PENGUIN! YOU DON'T LOOK SO BAD YOURSELF.
OOH, IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!! YOU LOOK GOOD!!

What the heck is going on here...?

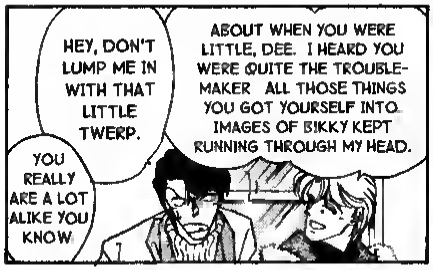
I WAS ABANDONED WHEN I WAS REALLY YOUNG. I THOUGHT I'D MENTIONED IT TO YOU BEFORE?

IT'S AN ORPHANAGE, ACTUALLY. WHERE I GREW UP.
A CHURCH?!
HUH?

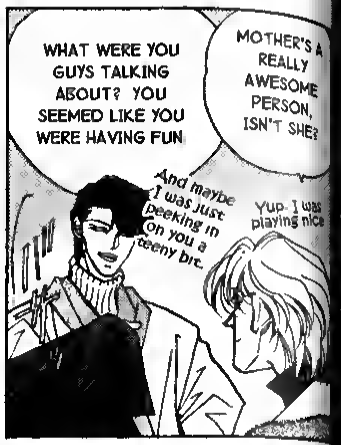
NOW WHY DOH'T YOU COME IH FOR A CUP OF COFFEE, HMM? AHO YES, I'M SPEAKING TO YOU AS WELL.
OH. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I'D BE HAPPY TO JOIH YOU.
I KNOW, I KNOW, OKAY, MOTHER? I'M FINE. REALLY.
AND QUIT YOUR SNICKERING, RYO!
Gah!
OH, THANK YOU AGAIN, DEE. BUT, ARE YOU SURE YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY FOR ALL THIS? YOU HAVE TO START SAVING SOON, YOU KNOW.
THIS IS A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS TO EAT.
Everybody's waiting for you.
DEE, WILL YOU COME PLAY WITH US?
.....
DEE!!!
MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
grin
ALL RIGHTIE THEN GUESS I'LL ENTERTAIN THE TROOPS FOR A LITTLE WHILE, 'KAY? TAKE CARE OF MY PARTNER THERE, PENGUIN.
YOU MEAN, MOTHER?
HUH? BUT OEE?!
AHO I'M MARIA LAHE BUT ALL THE CHILDREH CALL ME 'MOTHER'.
YES MA'AM. RANOY RYO MACLEAH. IT'S VERY NICE TO MEET YOU.
SO, YOUR NAME IS RYO, IS IT?
HERE YOU ARE.
OH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I OON'T BELIEVE HE'S CHAHGED VERY MUCH.
OH, YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN.
Then again when did that boy ever listen to anything I said?
THEN YOU'O REFER TO ME AS THE PENGUIN. I TOLO THAT BOY TO STOP CALLING ME THAT SIHCE THE CHILDREH WERE COPYIHG HIM, BUT OOES HE EVER LISTEN TO ME?
UNLESS THEY'RE LITTLE BRATS LIKE OEE WAS.
BUT HE'S A GOOO BOY. MY PRIOE AHO JOY, THAT ONE IS.
YES, HE IS, ISN'T HE.
smile

HE ONLY BRINGS THE NICEST PEOPLE TO INTRODUCE TO ME AFTER ALL. BUT-
HMM?
YOU SEEM LIKE A VERY NICE BOY YOURSELF.
YOU'RE DEFINITELY MISTAKEN! I'M JUST HIS PARTNER! HONEST!
OH, I WAS MISTAKEN THEN? IT'S JUST THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU SO-
WHAT?! I MEAN, I NEVER EXPECTED THAT QUESTION FROM A NUN!
Oh me, oh my
Pfft!
ARE YOU HIS LOVER THEN?
BUT?
MEAN, OF URSE I DO IKE HIM. T-NOT LIKE THAT-YOU KNOW-?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
YOU DON'T LIKE OEE, THEN?

JUST SO YOU KNOW_ I'M NOT THE TYPE TO JUOGE IF TWO PEOPLE NEED EACH OTHER, THEN IT OOESN'T MATTER IF THEY'RE BOTH MEN OR BOTH WOMEN
AND I THINK THAT BEING LOVERS WITH SOMEONE ISN'T A BAO THING AT ALL. IT'S A GOOO, GOOO THING.
I JUST DO, I SUPPOSE.
HOW CAN YOU KNOW ALL THESE THINGS? WE'VE ONLY JUST MET.
OEE_ HE, WELL, I THINK HE'S IN NEED OF YOU RIGHT NOW.
BUT OON'T OO SOMETHING JUST BECAUSE OF MY BABBLING. OISCOVER WHAT FEELS RIGHT TO YOUR HEART FOR YOURSELF.
ANO WHEN YOU OO, THEN SHARE THOSE FEELINGS WITH OEE.


HEY, DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH THAT LITTLE TWERP.
ABOUT WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, DEE. I HEARD YOU WERE QUITE THE TROUBLE-MAKER ALL THOSE THINGS YOU GOT YOURSELF INTO IMAGES OF BIKKY KEPT RUNNING THROUGH MY HEAD.
YOU REALLY ARE A LOT ALIKE YOU KNOW

DEE..


WHAT WERE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT? YOU SEEMED LIKE YOU WERE HAVING FUN
MOTHER'S A REALLY AWESOME PERSON, ISN'T SHE?
And maybe I was just peeking in on you a teeny bit.
Yup. I was playing nice

HOW DO I FEEL?
WELL, NOW THAT YOU KNOW ABOUT IT, HOW DO YOU FEEL?
ABOUT THIS PLACE?
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?

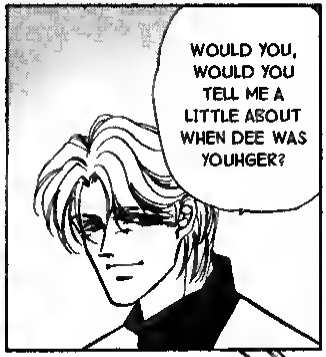
WELL YEAH, BUT..
WELL THEN, SO WHAT GOOD WOULD IT HAVE DONE IF I HAD TOLD YOU?
Same ending, different scenario that's all

OF COURSE IT DOESN'T! YOU'RE STILL THE SAME DEE TO ME!!

DOES IT CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK OF ME?

What feels right to me, huh?
I, I'LL THINK ABOUT IT..

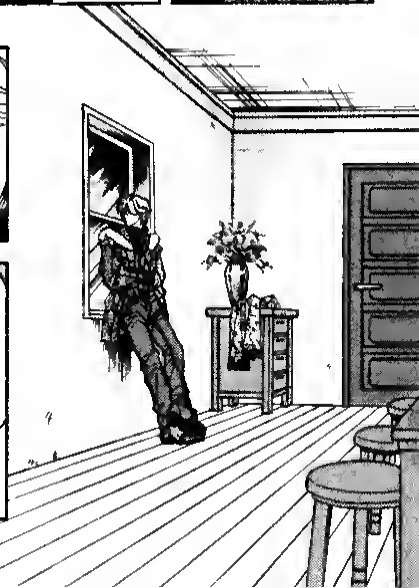
OH, OF COURSE I WILL.


WOULD YOU, WOULD YOU TELL ME A LITTLE ABOUT WHEN DEE WAS YOUNGER?

WHAT IS IT, MY CHILD?
MOTHER, WOULD YOU MIND IF I ASKED A FAVOR OF YOU?

WERE YOU TWO PLAYING NICE WITH EACH OTHER?

DEE.



WHAT?
LOOK AT THIS NERE. ON THE WINDOW FRAME.
NOPE
DEE, HOLD O SECOND TIM OUT, MAN
THIS KIND OF BULLSHIT YOU PULL IS EXACTLY WHY I THINK YOU HAVE A SPLIT PERSONALITY SOMETIMES.
I'M SERIO
I THINK SO_
A BULLET HOLE?!
LET'S GO CHECK OUT THE FRONT.
LOOK, TNERE'S MORE HERE
YOU MEAN T SAY THAT SOMEONE ACTUALLY HA TNE NERVE T OPEN FIRE A THIS PLACE?
OKAY.

I mean, I thought I knew you.and then it turns out that I really didn't know anything about you after all.
I DON'T KNOW. I JUST, I JUST FEEL A BIT CHEATED, I GUESS.
NO IT WON'T! DEE!!
SO LET 'EM. IT'LL BE LIKE A MINI-LIFE LESSON FOR TNEM.
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING, DEE?! WHAT IF THE KIDS SEE US?!
HMM?

Hey geek, feel like a loser much?
what an idiot!
Bikky !!
Hmm?
ACK!! RYO?!
What's that dude up to?

HEY..
HMM?
HEY, RYO.
IF YOU GUYS FOLLOW MY EXAMPLE, YOU WON'T EVEN HAFTA WORRY ABOUT TNE COPS CATCHING YOU, MUCH LESS COMING AFTER YOU.
SO, LISTEN UP TROOPS. PERFECTING TNE "FIVE-FINGER DISCOUNT" IS ALL ABOUT STEALTN BUT MAINLY COURAGE
OUGNT I EXPLAINED T TO YOU. N'T YOU YS EVER ISTEN?
AND WHAT WERE YOU PLANNING ON DOING AT THIS CONVENIENCE STORE AGAIN?
WE'RE GONNA KNOCK IT OVER FOR ALL TNAT IT'S GO-
I WAS THINKING TNE CONVENIENCE STORE ON 5TN.
SO WNERE'S OUR TARGET FOR TODAY, BOSS?
That old man's not all there It should be a cake-walk

WHAT ABOUT YOU, BOYS?
YEAH.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, RYO?
Y-YEAH, WE'RE GOOD, TOO.

WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED HERE...

SHE'S STILL INSIDE!!
WHERE'S THE PENGUIN? WHERE'S MOTHER?!

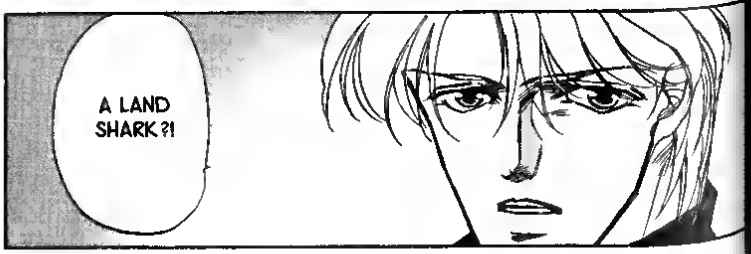
Mother !!

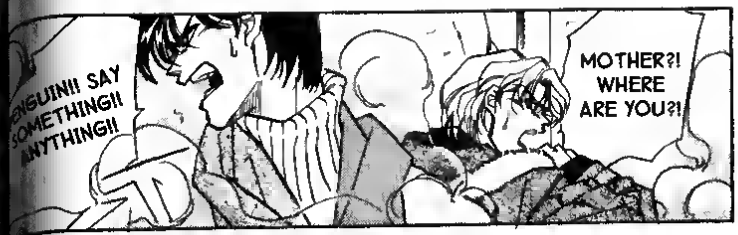
What the?!

DEE?!

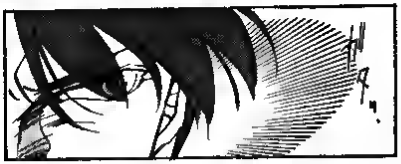
I, YEAH... SORRY, MAN.
SNAP OUT OF IT, DEE!! I'LL GO GET THE CAR YOU TAKE CARE OF MOTHER UNTIL I GET BACK, OKAY?

Hospital


A LAND SHARK?!


PENGUIN!! SAY SOMETHING!! ANYTHING!!
MOTHER?! WHERE ARE YOU?!

STOP IT, DEE. BETTER NOT TO SHAKE HER LIKE THAT.
OH MY GOD, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? SAY SOMETHIHG PLEASE!!

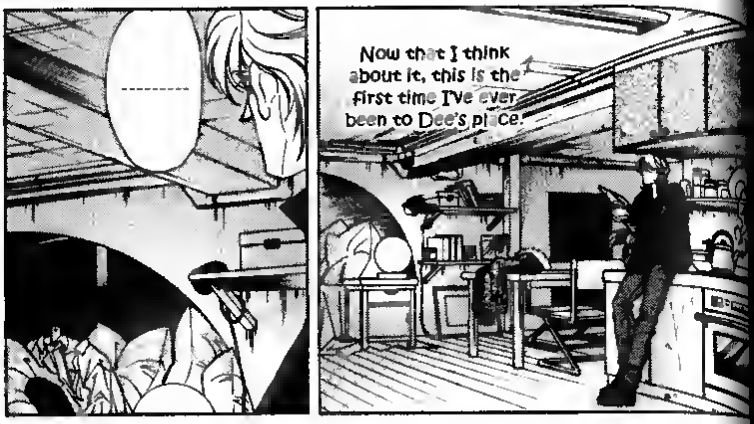


Mother?!

DEE?!

SHE LOOKS PRETTY BAD. WE HEED TO GET HER TO A HOSPITAL ASAP.

AND I SHOULD PROBABLY CLARIFY THE LAND SHARK DEAL. IT'S ACTUALLY A CORPORATION BY THE NAME OF S CORP THAT'S TRYING TO GET THE PROPERTY THE ORPHANAGE IS ON. WE'RE PRETTY SURE S CORP PAID HIM TO BLOW UP THE PLACE, ALTHOUGH WE'VE GOT NO EVIDENCE OF MONEY CHANGING HANDS BETWEEN THE TWO OF 'EM
YEAH SEEMS LIKE THAT CHURCH WAS GETTING SHOT UP ON QUITE A REGULAR BASIS LATELY.
THE ORPHANAGE IS THE ONLY PLACE LEFT THAT HASN'T SOLD OUT TO THEM
THEY'VE BOUGHT OUT PRETTY MUCH ALL THE SURROUNDING REAL ESTATE.
BECAUSE OF ITS SURROUNDINGS, THE PRICE OF THE LAND ITSELF IS ONLY SO-SO, WHICH IS PROBABLY WHY THE S CORP WANTS TO GET A HOLD OF IT.
THE ORPHANAGE ITSELF ISN'T IN THE NICEST OF AREAS BUT IT IS CLOSE TO THE CENTER OF THE CITY.
THE NUN WHO WAS INJURED IN THE BOMBING...YOU KNOW, SISTER MARIA LANE?
SHE OWNS THE LAND AND RUNS THE ORPHANAGE HERSELF
BURNS OUT SHE WAS ORIGINALLY FROM A SUPER RICH FAMILY. SHE'S BEEN POURING HER INHERITANCE INTO THAT ORPHANAGE TO KEEP IT ALIVE FROM THE GET-GO.
I THOUGHT ORPHANAGES WERE RUN BY THE GOVERNMENT?
NOPE, THIS IS PRIVATELY OWNED.
JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING. HIS NAME'S BEN LLOYD. HE'S BEEN IN THE SLAMMER TWO TIMES ALREADY FOR SIMILAR CRIMES.
NOW WHAT ABOUT THE ACTUAL BOMBER HIMSELF? ANY INFO ON HIM?
WOW. THAT'S NOT SOMETHING JUST ANYONE WOULD DO.
FOR THE CHILDREN
AN OFFICER STOPPED HIM FOR QUESTIONING ON HIS WAY FROM THE CRIME SCENE. HE SMACKED THAT COP DOWN PRETTY HARD.
BUT THANKS TO THAT LITTLE BLUNDER OF HIS, THE ASSAULTED OFFICER GOT A REAL EYE FULL OF LLOYD'S FACE AND ID'ED HIM RIGHT AWAY. THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY TO PICK HIM UP AS WE SPEAK.
OH, AND BY THE WAY, A FEW WORDS FROM OUR BELOVED CHIEF: "TELL DEE AND RYO TO GET THEIR ASSES HOME AND SIT THIS ONE OUT!"
WELL, THIS CASE IS A LITTLE TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT AFTER ALL. IT MAKES SENSE WE'D BE DROPPED FROM IT.
I KNOW. AND YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
I TELL YA...IF DEE WASN'T A COP, HE'D BE A MURDERER OR WORSE, MAN.
AND DON'T PASS ANY OF WHAT I JUST TOLD YOU ON TO DEE ABOUT THE PERP! KNOWING THAT HOT-HEAD HE'D PROBABLY GO PLUG THE SORRY BASTARD UP WITH A FEW BARRELS FULL OF LEAD

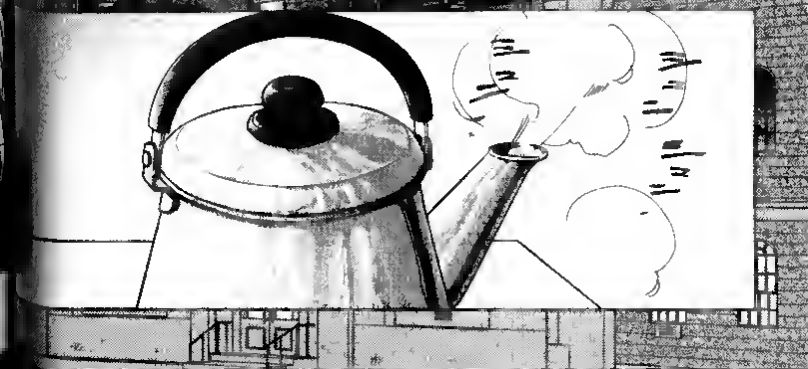

.....
Now that I think about it, this is the first time I've ever been to Dee's place.

It's also the first time I've ever seen Dee act like that. The usual Dee wouldn't have freaked out the way he did when he found Mother laying there like that.

But then again, how the hell was I expecting him to be? It's his 'mother' for crying out loud.

NO PROBLEM. HOW ABOUT I CHECK IN WITH YOU GUYS TOMORROW MORNING
OKAY, DRAKE?
LOOK, JUST UPDATE ME WHEN YOU CAN ON HOW THE INVESTIGATION'S GOING.

THAT WOULD BE GREAT.
I'LL BE OVER AT DEE'S THEN. I'LL BE SURE TO GET THE PHONE.



-
This could be bad.

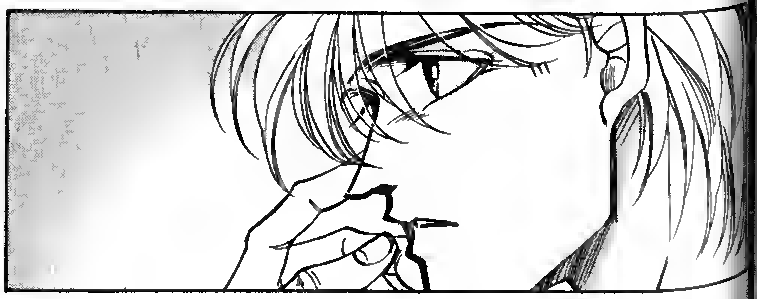
DEE, COFFEE'S READY.
YOU UP FOR A CUP?
WHY DON'T OU GET SOME REST, DEE?
He looks pretty bad. ...

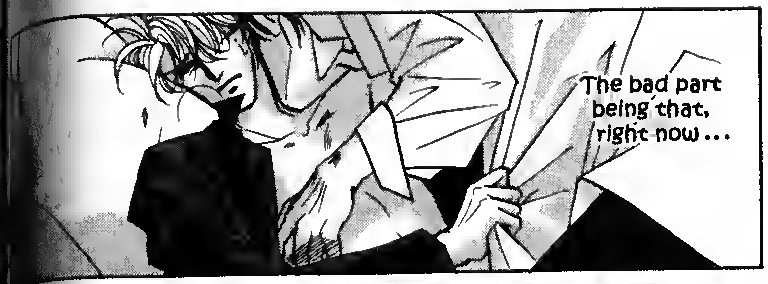
Hmm-
MGGHn
tweak

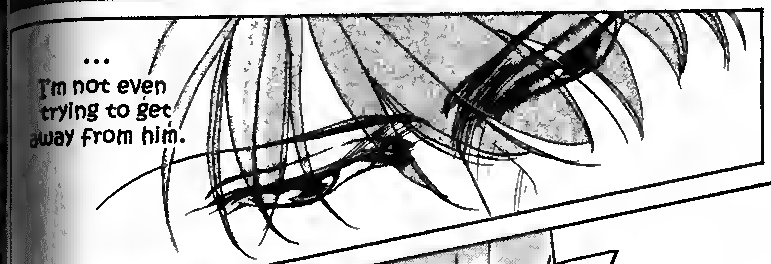
Stare
babump

DEE? WHAT WAS THAT FOR?
YOU BETTER START TRYING TO ESCAPE OR SOMETHING.
OTHERWISE I'M GONNA WANT TO GO ALL THE WAY, DUDE.

Guess you really hadn't thought about going all the way yet, huh?
Drat
Whoa. I just got a major mental image so I'll stop that train of thought right there.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "ALL THE WAY?"
YOU'RE JUST LIKE MOTHER
YOU BOTH LET ME GET AWAY WITH WAY TOO MUCH



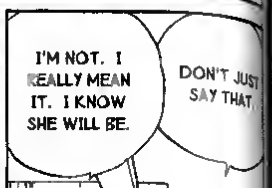

The bad part being that, right now...


...
I'm not even trying to get away from him.

I can't!

MOTHER WILL BE FINE.

BECAUSE I WANT TO TALK MORE WITH HER.

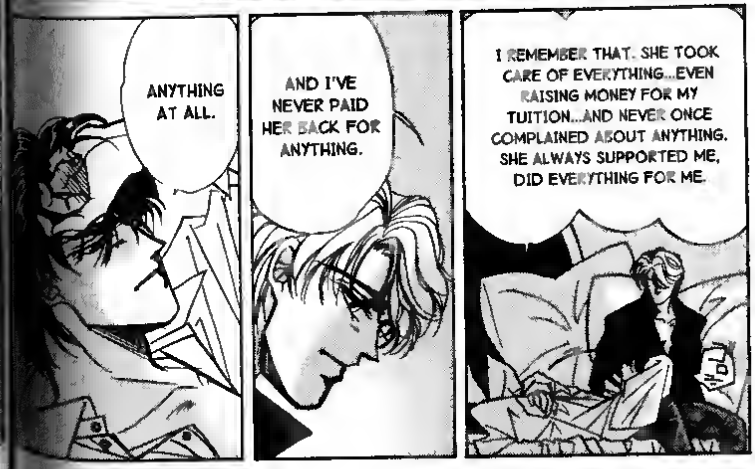

I'M NOT. I REALLY MEAN IT. I KNOW SHE WILL BE.
DON'T JUST SAY THAT.

Because I want to know anything and everything there is to know...
SO DON'T WORRY.

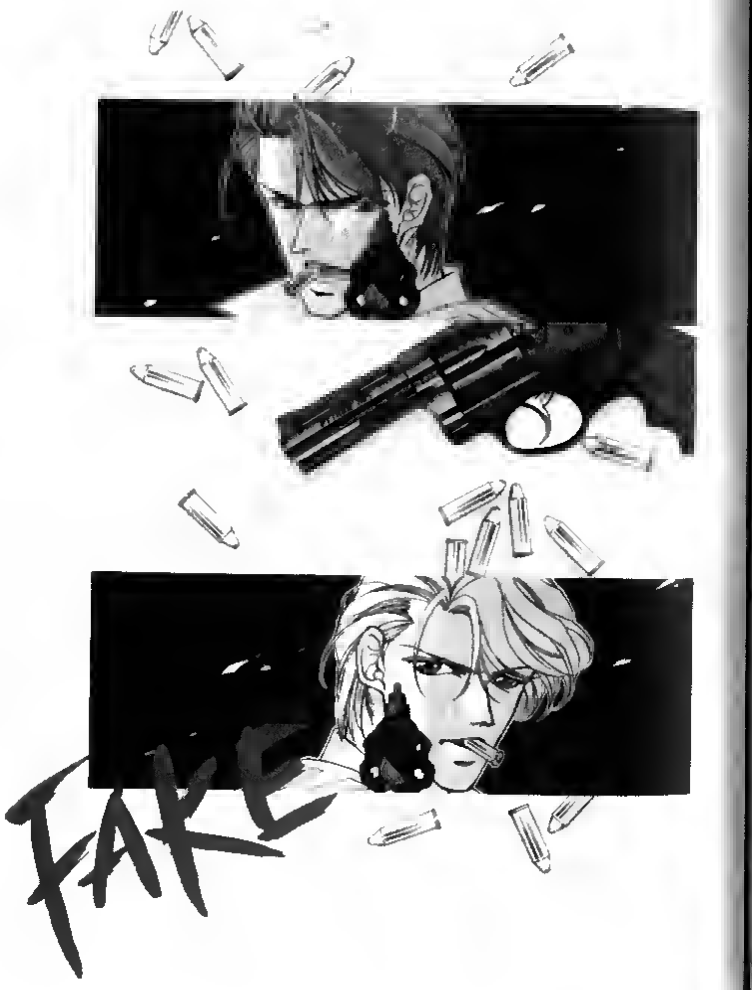
...about you...

MOTHER TOLO ME A TON OF STORIES ABOUT YOU...
...ABOUT WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER.

LIKE WHEN YOU WERE FIVE YEARS OLD AND YOU FELL OUT OF THE WINDOW AND BROKE YOUR ARM...
ABOUT ALL THE NAUGHTY THINGS YOU DID LIKE PICK-POCKETING AND SHOP-LIFTING...
SHE ALSO TOLD ME ABOUT HOW AFTER YOU GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL, YOU WENT UP TO HER AND TOLD HER YOU WANTED TO BE A POLICE OFFICER. SHE TOLD ME THAT AT FIRST, SHE THOUGHT YOU'D HIT YOUR HEAD OR SOMETHING.


I REMEMBER THAT. SHE TOOK CARE OF EVERYTHING...EVEN RAISING MONEY FOR MY TUITION...AND NEVER ONCE COMPLAINED ABOUT ANYTHING. SHE ALWAYS SUPPORTED ME, DID EVERYTHING FOR ME.
AND I'VE NEVER PAID HER BACK FOR ANYTHING.
ANYTHING AT ALL.

HMM?
OH! I CAN'T BELIEVE WE JUST FELL ASLEEP LIKE THAT.
I bet your legs are asleep
SHEESN, AND LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE TOO NICE FOR YOUR OWN GOOD SOMETIMES.
DID YOU EVER STOP TO TNINK TNAT TNAT'S GONNA MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE SHIT SLEEPING LIKE THAT?
TELL
HELLO?
OH HEY. IT'S ME. DRAKE.
JUST CALLING IN TO TELL YOU NOW TNINGS ARE GOING WITN TNE CASE. WE HAVE TNE BOMBER ON THE RUN RIGNT NOW.
NE'S NEADING TOWARDS 32ND STREET, BUT MAN, I TELL YOU TNAT LLOYD'S GOT SOME LEGS ON NIM.
Clunk
WNOA, DEE!! NOLD ON!! WAITH!
YEAN. REMEMBER? I TOLD YOU ABOUT NIM NUH? WAIT A MINUTE WHO'S THIS? DEE?!
THANKS, DRAKE.
WE'RE REAL CLOSE TO NABBING HIM, BUT HE KNOWS HIS WAY AROUND PRETTY WELL. KEEPS DUCKING INTO ALLEYS, BUILDINGS...A TOTAL PAIN IN THE ASS
WNEN YOU SAY LLOYD, ARE YDU TALKING ABOUT BEN LLOYD?
DEE?!
NOTNING. DON'T WORRY GO BACK TO BED, 'KAY?
WNAT WAS TNAT ABOUT? WNO JUST CALLED?

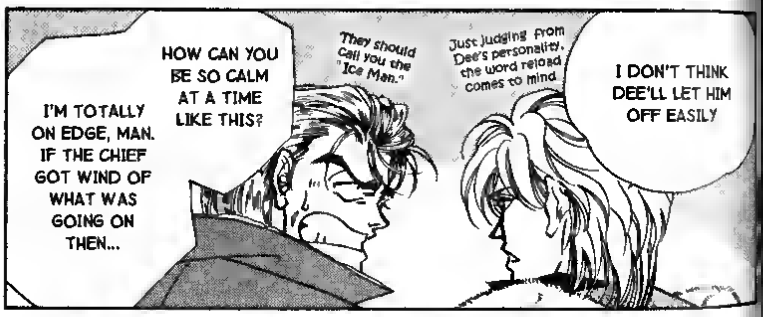

FAKE

Dee?! Hello?!
Are you there?..
..Ryo? Pick up the phone, man!!
Somebody?!
Dee !!
Oh no!!

HAVE YOU SEEN DEE?
RYO.
WE'VE BEEN KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR HIM, BUT NO ONE'S SPOTTED HIM YET.

DRAKE!

I don't even want to think about what'll happen.
IF DEE GETS TO LLOYD FIRST THEN...
SAME GOES FOR LLOYD. WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, MAN?


I'M TOTALLY ON EDGE, MAN. IF THE CHIEF GOT WIND OF WHAT WAS GOING ON THEN...
HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
They should call you the "Ice Man."
Just judging from Dee's personality, the word reload comes to mind.
I DON'T THINK DEE'LL LET HIM OFF EASILY

He
Far.
IF WHO GOT WIND OF WHAT?
ACK.

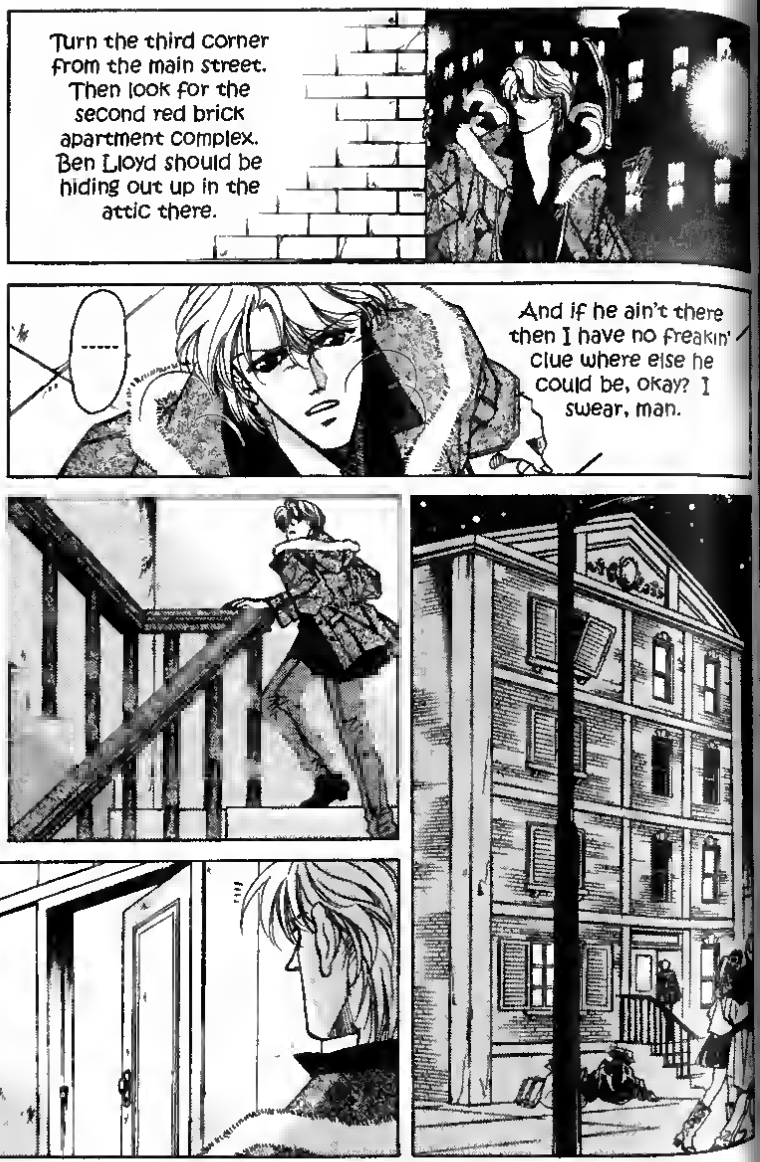
Dammit.
OKAY I'LL KEEP AH EYE OUT FOR THE CHIEF GOOD LUCK.
THANKS, MAN LATER.
THAT WAS CLOSE. I'LL TRY TO FIND DEE PRONTO ON A CONNECTING STREET
BOOK STORE
Where are you, Dee?
Casino

YES, SIR, BUT I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF, SIR. I JUST WAHTED TO KNOW HOW THINGS WERE GOING SO..
RAHDY? WHAT ARE YOU DOIHG HERE? I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO STAY HOME AHD STAY OUT OF THIS ONE.
EE.
OF COURSE HE IS, SIR! HE'S BACK HOME SLEEPING.. HE MUST HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED. HE'S TOTALLY OUT.
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL. BUT AT LEAST TELL ME DEE'S BACK HOME SITTING IT OUT. HE'D BETTER BE.
IF DEE SHOWS HIS FACE AROUND HERE. THE TWO OF YOU ARE IN BIG TROUBLE GOT IT?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR.
AND ONE MORE THING.
WELL, WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME AND REST UP AS WELL. YOU WON'T HEAR ME SAY THAT VERY OFTEN, SO DON'T WASTE IT.
BOOK STORE

WOO HOO---- - WAY TA GO ME. I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, LADIES, BUT I CAN'T SEEM TO LOSE TADAY!!
Wa, ha, ha, ha, ha, nah!!
RED 21. RED...21.
20 21 22
WELL, WHOOP OEE DOO FOR YOU, HUH? HANK LEISURE?
Pat
WHAT THE?!? WHO THE HELL OO YOU THINK YOU ARE, HUH!? ORAGGIN' ME ALL THE WAY OUT LIKE THIS!!
Hmmm !?
Whoa !!
OOOH, YOU GOT ME SCARED, COPPER. I'M ABSOLUTELY SHAKING... HOW ABOUT A BIT OF ORIGINALITY NEXT TIME? PISS OFF, MAN.
WHERE'S BEN LLOYD?
I'M THE POLICE SO KEEP YOUR DUMBASS COMMENTS TO YOURSELF AND JUST ANSWER MY QUESTIONS.

LEMME LET YOU IN ON SOMETHING, HANKIE BOY. I'M NOT IN THE BEST OF MOODS RIGHT NOW SO YOU KNOW THAT THIN LINE BETWEEN PROTOCOL AND POLICE BRUTALITY? NOT HAPPENING TODAY.
GRR. YOU BASTARD!!
click
LOOK HERE, HANKIE BOY, I ALREADY KNOW YOU'VE WORKED WITH BEN LLOYD IN THE PAST ON A COUPLE JOBS. SO LET'S SKIP THE FORMALITIES AND JUST SPILL IT!!
GUESS I'M NOT IN MUCH OF A LAUGHING MOOD, SHITHEAD.
AWW..COME ON, MAN LOOK, I WAS JUST HAVIN' A LITTLE FUN WITH YA, MAN. HEH, HEH, HEH.
WHERE'S HE HIDING OUT!?

He's not around here either.
Screw you, man!! Who the hell do you think you are, huh? Ya rat bastard!! You'll pay for this!!
EXCUSE ME, BUT..
Pat


Turn the third corner from the main street. Then look for the second red brick apartment complex. Ben Lloyd should be hiding out up in the attic there.

And if he ain't there then I have no freakin' clue where else he could be, okay? I swear, man.

JEEZ, WHAT IS IT WITH ME TOOAY? I'M A GODOAMN PIG MAGNET. LOOK, I ALREAOY TOLO EVERYTHING I KNOW TO THE SHORT-TEMPERED PMS-ING SHITHEAO FROM FIVE MINUTES AGO.
I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS IF YOU DON'T MIND.
WHAT DID HE ASK YOU ABOUT?
He must be talking about Dee!
UNFORTUNATELY, I'M PRETTY SHORT-TEMPERED TODAY AS WELL. NOT AS BAD AS DEE, BUT I'M SURE I'M A CLOSE SECOND.
RRRR... THIS IS WHY I HATE YOU PIG-LICKERS!! I CAN'T FREAKIN' WIN TODAY!!

I GOT THINGS TO DO, YA KNOW. SO, SEE YA!
WHY DON'T YOU GO ASK YOUR LITTLE FRIEND YERSELF, COPPER? I'M BUSY.

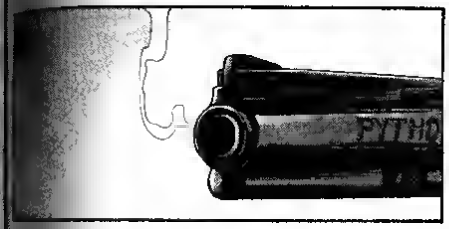
He's not here.
No ashes yet.
Just a damn dead-end.
They're still close by!!

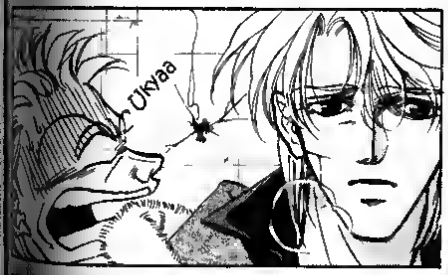
It's coming from the other side of the wall?!
LOOK MAN..I..I'M SORRY, MAN. IT WAS JUST A JOB, JUST ANOTHER JOB TO ME!!
WHO ASKED YOU TO DO IT?
It's Dee. So the other dude's voice must be Lloyd's then?!
HIS NAME'S JESSY, MAN YOU KNOW, THE FIXER, JESSY? HE'S GIVEN ME REALLY GOOD JOBS BEFORE.
AND WHO'S BEHIND JESSY, HUN?
YOU KNOW HOW IT IS. BUT MONEY IS MONEY AND THEY SAID THEY'D PAY ME 100 G'S IF I BLEW UP THE ORPHANAGE SO...
THINGS TEND TO GET MESSY IF YOU STICK YOUR HEAD TOO FAR DOWN THE LINE, SO I DON'T. NEVER HAVE, NEVER WILL.
I DON'T KNOW, MAN. I SERIOUSLY DON'T KNOW.
100 G'S?
FOR A BIT OF FREAKIN' POCKET LINT YOU PUT MY MOTHER THROUGH ALL OF THAT?
FOR A MEASLY 100 G'S
Mother?!
YEAH, $100,000 MAN
GO TO HELL!!
DON'T DO IT, DEE!!
Noooo!

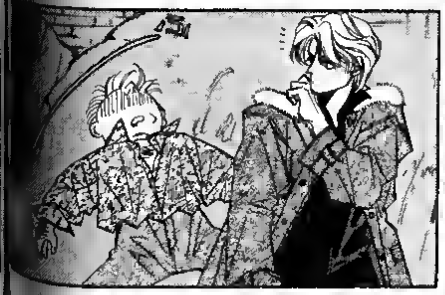
DEE!!
DEE, YOU'VE GOT TO COOL IT.
DON'T PULL TNIS SNIT ON ME, RYO. DON'T FREAKING GET IN MY FREAKING WAY. NE'S TRASN, MAN, AND I'M JUST TAKIN' NIM OUT. SO JUST MOVE YOUR ASS, AND GET TNE HELL OUT OF MY WAY!
NIS DAYS ARE NUMBERED. NE'S PRACTICALLY GOT, "SNOOT ME," WRITTEN ON NIS FOREHEAD. SO COME ON, LET'S JUST TAKE NIM BACK TO THE STATION AND..
EVEN IF YOU DON'T DO IT NOW, SOMEONE ELSE ALONG THE LINE WILL. I MEAN LOOK AT NIM.

I WON'T!! I'M NOT GOING TO JUST STEP ASIDE AND THEN BE TNE ONE HAVING TO TELL MOTHER TNAT YOU'RE A MURDERER!
BUT IF I DON'T DO IT, TNINGS'LL NEVER BE RIGNT!! I NAVE TO SETTLE TNIS MYSELF AND BY MY OWN NAND!! SO JUST GET TNE NELL OUT OF THE WAY, DAMMIT!!
NOW CAN YOU SAY TNAT?! I'M YOUR PARTNER, DEE!!
AND YOU'RE MY PARTNER FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!!
YOU'RE NOT MY FRIGGIN' GUARDIAN, GODDAMN IT! NOW SHUT YOUR FREAKING MOUTN AND GET THE NELL OUT OF THE WAY OR I'LL FREAKING SNOOT YOU TOO, I SWEAR!!
TO HELL WITH IT!! THEN, I QUIT BEING YOUR FREAKING PARTNER.
SO MOVE THE HELL AWAY, RYO!!

YOU GOING TO LET GO OF ME NOW, DEE?! AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH?!


PYTHO


Ukyaa



I'M THE ONE WHO'S ABOUT TO FRIGGIN' FAINT, YOU DOLT!
Jesus!

LOOKS LIKE HE FAINTED.

SO SHUT THE FUCK UP! WHY THE FUCK ARE YOU APOLOGIZING TO ME IN THE FIRST PLACE, IDIOT?!
I know, I know. I know I was in the wrong and you were in the right, okay?
I'M SORRY DEE. BUT-

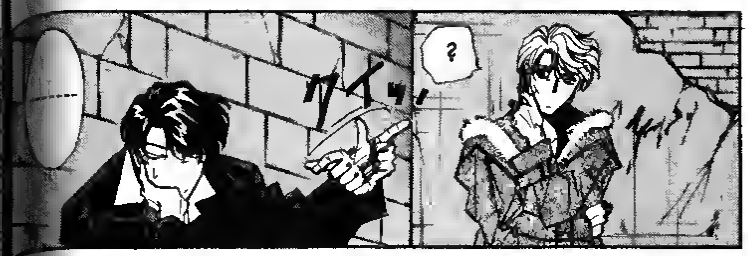
WELL, YOU'RE THE ONE THAT STARTED IN ABOUT NOT BEING MY PARTNER ANYMORE SO..

DID YOU WANT TO GET SHOT DEAD BY ME THAT BAD?!

I OWE YOU ONE, MAN.

I'LL JUST PUT IT ON YOUR TAB.

Thanks.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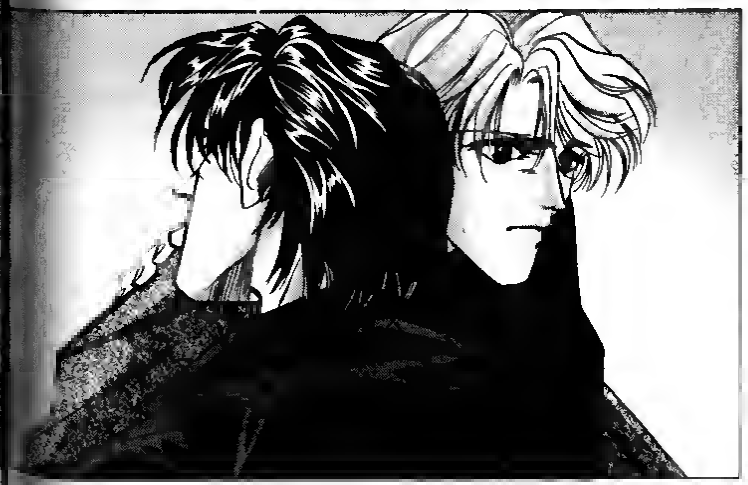
?

IT'S NOTHING JUST A SCRATCH.

HMM?
DON'T MOVE FOR A SEC.

DOES IT HURT?
DEE?



CHIEF!! I'VE MANAGED TO APPREHEND BEN LLOYD, SIR!! I NABBED HIM ALL BY MYSELF AND DEFINITELY NOT WITH ANYONE ELSE'S HELP!!
NOW DON'T FORGET TO TREAT THOSE TWO TO PIZZA OR SOMETHING LATER, OKAY?
Uwa-ahhh !!
WELL, YOU KNOW HOW IT IS, SIR HAD ME RUNNING IN CIRCLES BUT I OVERCAME EVERY OBSTACLE IN THE END AND VOILA, WE GOT OUR MAN. WA, HA, HA, HA!
OHH, NICE WORK THERE, DRAKE ALL BY YOURSELF YOU SAY? YOU MUST HAVE BUSTED YOUR ASS ON THIS ONE, HUH?
I feel awful for ya, you hard, hard-worker you're a good man, Drake.
Yep, yep.

DEE!!

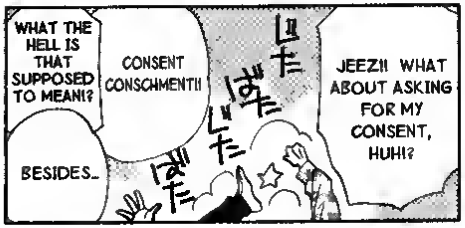
Dee—who's under house arrest for firing his weapon (the Chief found out)—and Ryo on their day off

YOU MEAN IT?
OF COURSE I DO. I TALKED TO THE DOCTOR IN CHARGE OF MOTHER MYSELF.
I WENT AND VISITED MOTHER TODAY. SHE'S DOING REALLY GREAT, DEE. SHE'S GONNA MAKE IT.
THANK GOD.
SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.
HOW ABOUT WE GO SEE HER NEXT WEEK? SHE SHOULD BE UP FOR A VISIT BY THEN.
WHAT ABOUT THE ORPHANAGE?

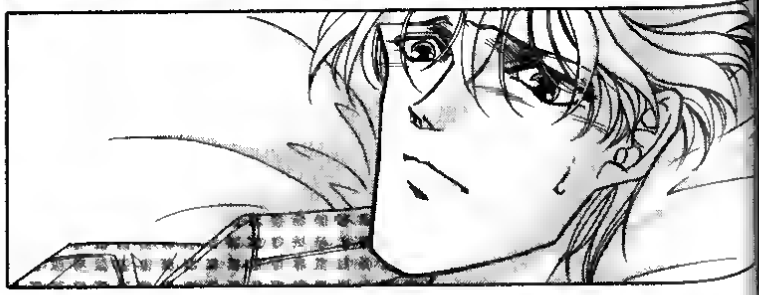
SO THEY'RE GONNA BE TAKING CARE OF ALL THE MOVING AND SET UP COSTS FOR THE ORPHANAGE.
UNDER THE OLD CONTRACT SHE HAD WITH THAT LAND. THERE WEREN'T REALLY ANY GUARANTEES AGAINST EVICTION PROCEDURES FROM S CORP. SO MOTHER WAS IN QUITE A PREDICAMENT TO START WITH. BUT WITH LLOYD BEING ARRESTED. I GUESS S CORP DOESN'T WANT ANY MORE NEGATIVE PUBLICITY
SOMETHING'S BEEN WORKED OUT AND THEY'LL BE MOVED TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION SOON. BUT NO DETAILS WILL BE AVAILABLE UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF NEXT MONTH.
DEE?
stare
IT PISSES ME OFF WE WEREN'T ABLE TO GET SOME HARD EVIDENCE AGAINST S CORP BUT AT LEAST THE CHILDREN WILL STILL HAVE A PLACE TO GO, RIGHT?
SO THEY'RE GONNA TRY AND SWEEP THIS WHOLE THING UNDER THE RUG, JUST LIKE THAT, HUH?
WAAHH!?

NO HABLA ENGLISH!! I'M NOT KIDDIN'.
YOU'RE NOT KIDDING, YOU'RE JUST FLAT-OUT LYING!!
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME, DEE!?

GOOD LORD!! I..I'M NOT READY FOR THIS YET!!
NOOOO!! S..STOP IT, DEE!! HOW ABOUT WE TALK THIS OVER FIRST?!
Mmmmm


WHAT THE HELL IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!?
CONSENT CONSCHMENT!!
JEEZ!! WHAT ABOUT ASKING FOR MY CONSENT, HUH!?
BESIDES..
ばた
ばた
ばた

I HATE TO POINT OUT THE OBVIOUS, BUT YOU DIDN'T RUN AWAY LAST TIME, DID YOU?



PICK UP? WHERE WE LEFT OFF LAST TIME? AS IN..

BINGO.
grin

NOW THAT EVERYTHING'S AS SQUARED AWAY AS IT CAN BE, HOW ABOUT YOU AND ME PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF LAST TIME.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING THIS TIME, DEE?

grab
SORRY, SEXY, BUT I BEG TO DIFFER!!
URR, SORRY BUT I'VE SORTA GOT PLANS SO I'M GOING HOME NOW, 'KAY? LATER.

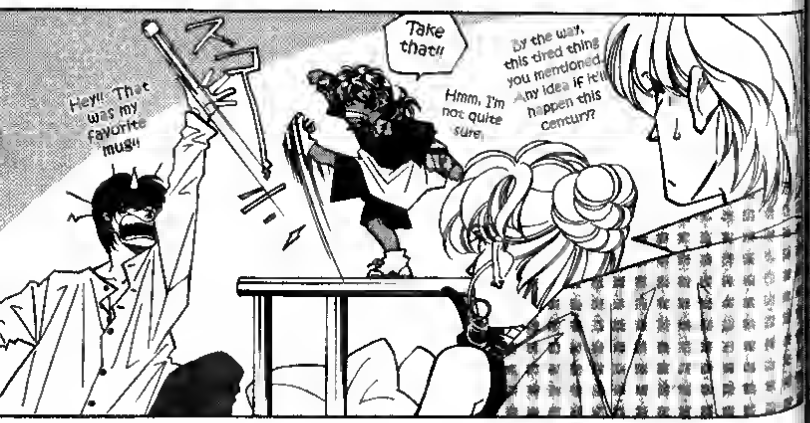
OH, MY !!
NICE SPREAD YOU GOT HERE! I'M SURPRISED!!
UP
DAMN YOU, CAROL!!
JUST IGNORE ME AND CONTINUE DOING WHATEVER IT WAS THAT YOU WERE DOING. I'M SO GLAD YOU WERE ABLE TO JUST BOUNCE BACK UP LIKE THAT, DEE. YUP. I SAW THE WHOLE THING.
AND IT'S A LOT TIDIER THAN I EXPECTED, TOO BUT, JUST NOT AS TIDY AND KEPT UP AS RYO'S PLACE. OH, AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
Grrr. distractions! Again!
How much did you see?

DEE!
WELL THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE BE..C..
MMM.. MMM MMMM M..
HUSH, BABY! THE TIME FOR TALK IS OVER.

Oh it's ass-kicking time all right!! Take that!!
DUH
dodge

SOUNDS GOOD, CAROL
AND WHEN THEY GET TIRED, HOW ABOUT WE ALL GO OUT AND HAVE A NICE DINNER TOGETHER? OKAY?
Why do I feel just the least bit cheated?

Get back here, you little brat!!
Catch me if you can, you queer old Cat Fard!
Oh, Blimey! Deet, Quit it, guys
OOOHHHH!! LOW BLOW!! HOLY SHIT!!
OH, JUST LET THEM FIGHT FOR A BIT.

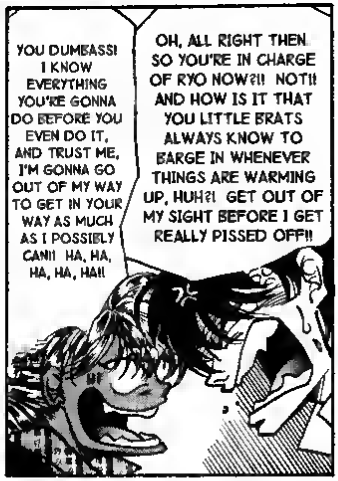

Hey!! That was my favorite mug!!
Take that!!
Hmm, I'm not quite sure!
By the way, this dried thing you mentioned... any idea if it'll happen this century?

SHUT THE HELL UP. WHO THE HELL WOULD WANT TO EAT YOUR FOUL-TASTING HAND ANYHOW?
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT FOR YOU DAMN BABOON!? DID MY HAND REALLY LOOK THAT APPETIZING TO YOU, YOU STINKING MONKEY!?
bleep, bleep, bleep

Owww-wwww-wwww!!

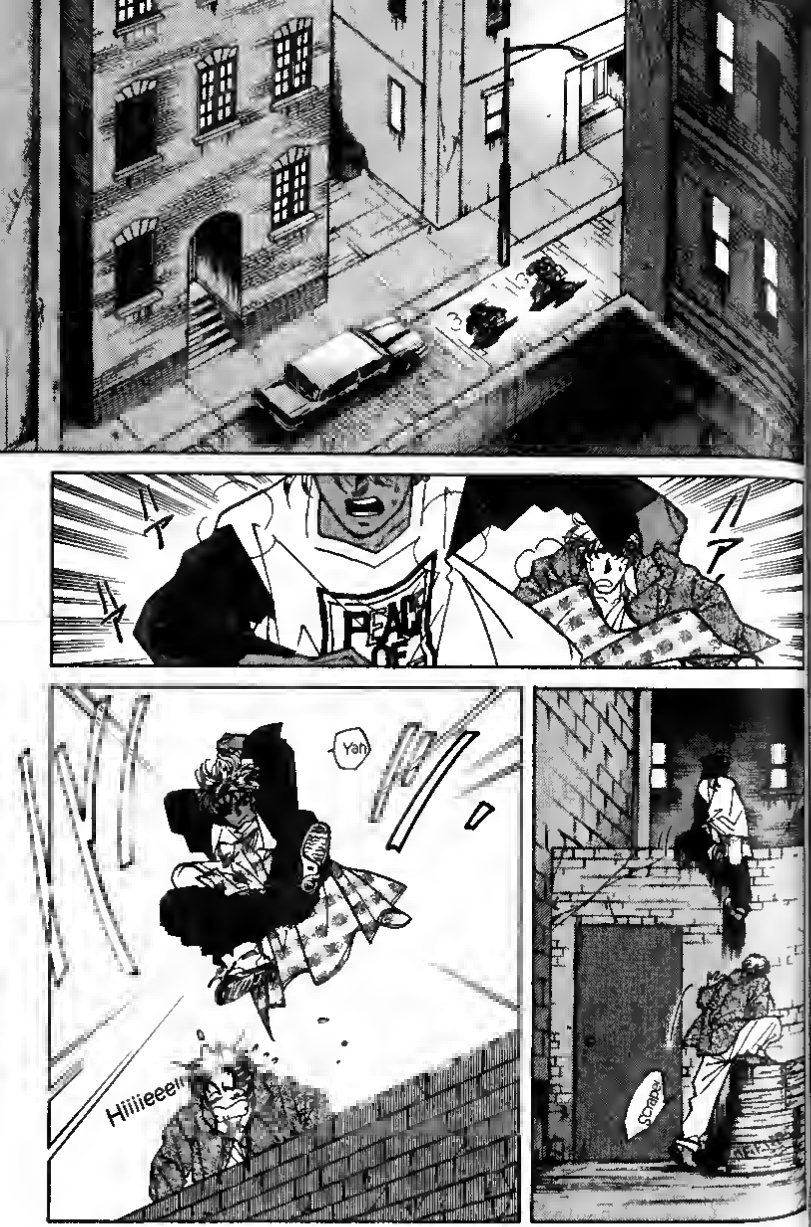
So don't ever let me catch you pawing him with your nasty ass cootie hands again!! Got it?!
MORE IMPORTANTLY!! I DON'T APPROVE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH MY RYO AT ALL!! YOU UNDERSTAND ME, SCUM BAG!?

Bring it on, you sorry excuse for a protozoa!! Phhbbtttt!!
You loser, idiot! You rump ranger!!
WHAT WAS THAT AGAIN?


YOU DUMBASS! I KNOW EVERYTHING YOU'RE GONNA DO BEFORE YOU EVEN DO IT, AND TRUST ME, I'M GONNA GO OUT OF MY WAY TO GET IN YOUR WAY AS MUCH AS I POSSIBLY CAN!! HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!!
OH, ALL RIGHT THEN. SO YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF RYO NOW?!! NOT!! AND HOW IS IT THAT YOU LITTLE BRATS ALWAYS KNOW TO BARGE IN WHENEVER THINGS ARE WARMING UP, HUH?! GET OUT OF MY SIGHT BEFORE I GET REALLY PISSED OFF!!

WHAT THE HELL?! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU JUST SMACKED AN INNOCENT KID LIKE THAT, YOU STUPID LOSER!!
HEE, HEE, HEE!! BRING IT ON!! OWW!!
NO WAY!! NE WANTS A FIGHT, HE GETS A FIGHT!! I'M GONNA KICK NIS TINY LITTLE ASS!!
DEE, NOW ABOUT YOU BE TNE BIGGER MAN HERE AND JUST...
And by the way, you've never been an innocent kid!! Kuh!!
CONSIDER IT A BLESSING SINCE ME RATTLING YER BRAIN CAGE PROVES YOU ACTUALLY HAVE ONE...AS LITTLE AS IT IS!!
AREN'T YOU GUYS GETTING NUNGRY? AT ALL?

FAKE act.6/End.



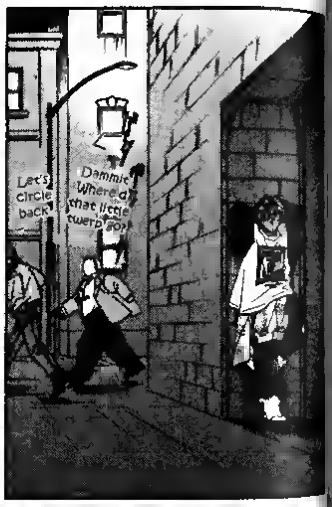
FAKE

Waahhhh !!
I HEARD SOMETHING FROM OVER THERE.
Holy Crap !!
MOVE YOUR ASS, BOBBY!!
PEACE OF
Waah-hh!!
QUIT YOUR YAPPING AND GET IN THERE ALREADY!!
DON'T WORRY. I'LL GET 'EM OFF OUR BACKS.
BUT THOSE GUYS.. THEY'RE STILL OUT THERE.
HERE, BOBBY. YOU HIDE OUT IN HERE. AND BY THE WAY, YOU'RE TOTALLY SLOWING ME DOWN, DUDE.
BUT!

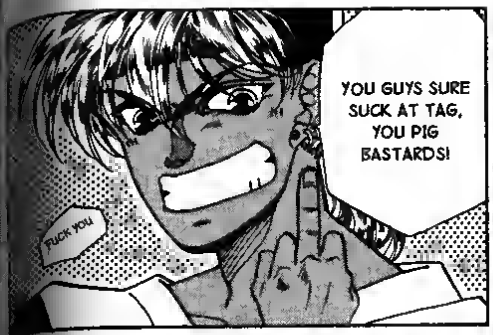
That's it kid!! You're dead-meat!!

Now then, to go find Carol.

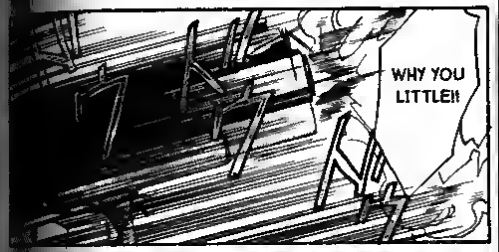
Loooo-sers. I can hear your sorry asses a mile away. Heh, heh.
Be


Let's circle back
Dammit! Where'd that little coward go?

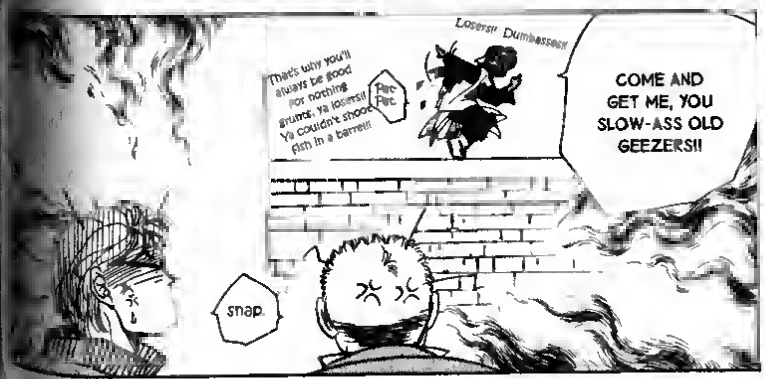
Kyaahh!!


YOU GUYS SURE SUCK AT TAG, YOU PIG BASTARDS!
FUCK YOU

UP HERE. SUWEEE!!


WHY YOU LITTLE!!

WHOA.


Losers!! Dumbasses!!
That's why you'll always be good for nothing grunts, ya losers!! Ya couldn't shoot fish in a barrel!!
Pew Pew
COME AND GET ME, YOU SLOW-ASS OLD GEEZERS!!
snap

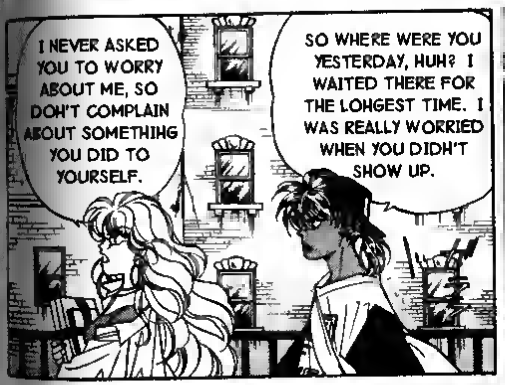
N-Y. CENTER HIGH SCHOOL
THE BEGINNING
YO.
D'OH.
AND HOW THE HELL WOULD YOU KNOW, HUH?
I REALLY DOUBT IT.
OH YEAH, GOOD ONE. HOW THE HECK ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO THAT WHEN BIKKY'S DEFINITELY NOT THE ONE WITH HER
WHY DON'T WE JUST ASK BIKKY DIRECTLY?
SO WHO IS?
AS IN, GOING OUT WITH CAROL
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WITH HER?"
RIGHT, SO..

ALL I KNOW IS THAT, ONE, YOU SURE AS HELL DON'T HAVE A MONGOOSE, AND TWO, THERE'S NO WAY THE DUMBEST KID IN CLASS IS HELPING ANYONE WITH THEIR HOMEWORK, SO..
THAT FREAKIN' HURT, BIKKY.
LATER DUDE. Y..YEAH, AND I HAVE TO, UM, GO HOME AND HELP MY SISTER WITH HER HOMEWORK SO
I see...
WELL, I'VE GOTTA GO HOME AND FEED MY MONGOOSE SO, SEE YA, BIKS
JUST CHECK HER OUT OVER THERE, 'KAY?
Aww, man.
..SPILL IT WHAT ABOUT CAROL?
AND REMEMBER, IT'S JUST A RUMOR AND DON'T KILL THE MESSENGER AND ALL!
SEE THAT KID BOBBY SHE'S WITH? RUMOR IS THAT HE AND HER HAVE, WELL, YOU KNOW. DONE IT.
The School Idiot, Carol

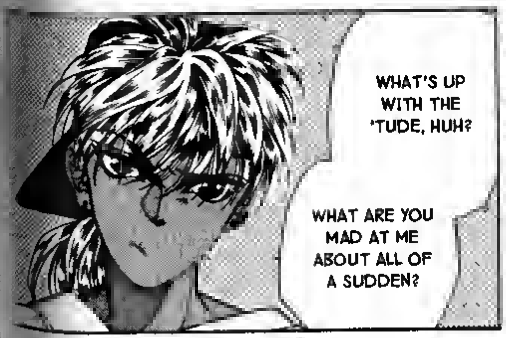
HMM? BIKKY?!
I'M FINE, TNANKS. I JUST WASN'T LOOKING AROUND SO_
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT TNERE?
EH, CECILE?
AND WNAT TNE NELL IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
WNELP, NOW I KNOW IT'S JUST YOU, I ALMOST FEEL CHEATED ABOUT WORRYING IF YOU WERE NURT OR NOT.
?
?
Ha ha I was just messing with you Sorry, nun!
Oh! you big bully!!
See, you're absolutely fine
Oh you!!

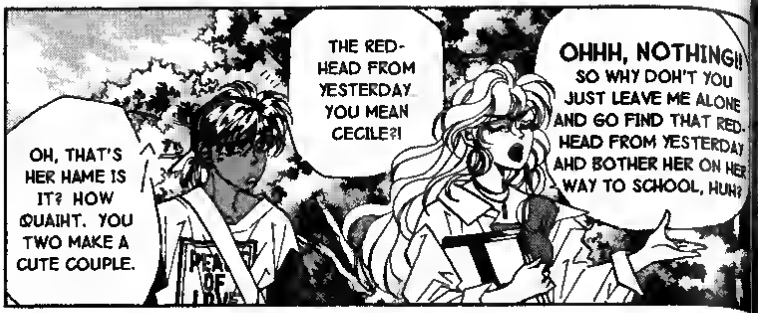
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT FOR, NUH?! OHHH, JEALOUSY'S ONE UGLY BITCH AIN'T SHE!? OOWWW!!
I'm not going down like this!! Rawr!!
ANYHOW, THAT'S ALL WE WERE TRYING TO FIGGER OUT, OKAY? WHETNER OR NOT THE RUMORS WERE TRUE.
But I'm pretty sure they are
NEH, LIKE YOU'VE GOT TNE BALLS, LOSER. DON'T TNINK SO.
I'll get you back!
See ya tomorrow
YOU'LL BE SORRY, BIKKY!!
OWW !!
Whoa !!
Kyah!!

THE MISUHDERSTAHDING
Carol!!! Hey, Carol!! Hold up – a second!!


I NEVER ASKED YOU TO WORRY ABOUT ME, SO DOH'T COMPLAIN ABOUT SOMETHIHG YOU DID TO YOURSELF.
SO WHERE WERE YOU YESTERDAY, HUH? I WAITED THERE FOR THE LONGEST TIME. I WAS REALLY WORRIED WHEN YOU DIDH'T SHOW UP.

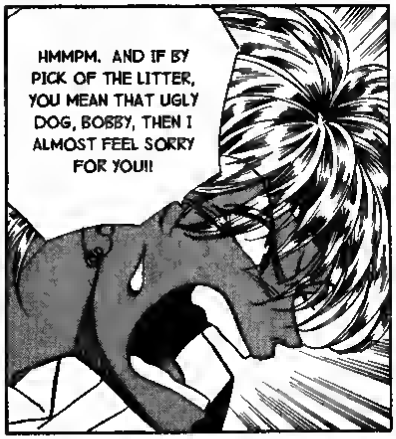
I SAID, "WAIT UP" ALREADY!


WHAT'S UP WITH THE 'TUDE, HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU MAD AT ME ABOUT ALL OF A SUDDEN?

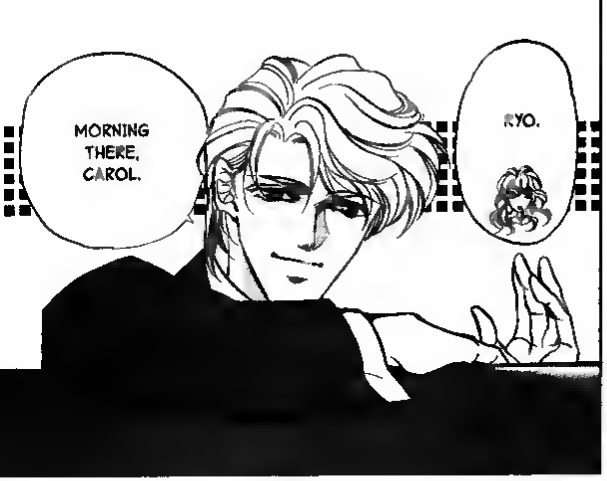

OH, THAT'S HER HAME IS IT? HOW QUAIHT. YOU TWO MAKE A CUTE COUPLE.
THE RED-HEAD FROM YESTERDAY YOU MEAN CECILE?!
OHHH, NOTHING!! SO WHY DOH'T YOU JUST LEAVE ME ALONE AND GO FIND THAT RED-HEAD FROM YESTERDAY AHD BOTHER HER ON HER WAY TO SCHOOL, HUH?

HOW DARE YOU!! OF ALL THE ARROGAH_ UH, UH, HO WAY AM I JEALOUS OVER THE LIKES OF YOU!!
THIS IS KINDA COOL THOUGH 16 YEARS OLD AND YOU STILL FALL INTO THAT LITTLE TRAP CALLED JEALOUSY HUH? BUT I GUESS I UNDERSTAND. I AM POPULAR AFTER ALL.
Don't hate me because I'm beautiful!!

HEY, NOW_ IF YOU'RE AN OLD WOMAN, THEN I'M AH OLD MAN. SHEESH, CECILE'S JUST A CLASSMATE OF MINE, OKAY!?
THAT'S RIGHT, JUST IGNORE THE OLD WOMAN WHO'S THREE WHOLE YEARS OLDER THAN YOU. WHY DON'T YOU


HMMPM. AND IF BY PICK OF THE LITTER, YOU MEAN THAT UGLY DOG, BOBBY, THEN I ALMOST FEEL SORRY FOR YOU!!

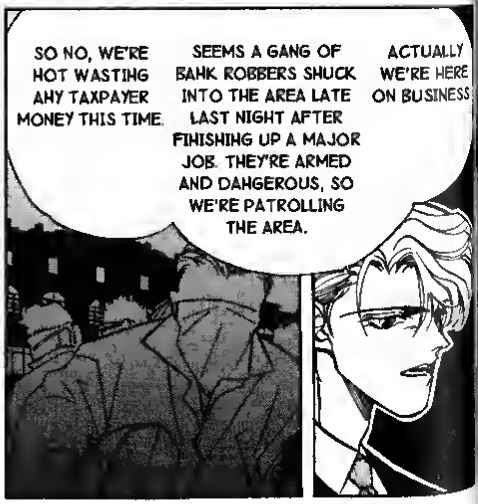
AND JUST SO YOU KNOW, I'VE PRETTY MUCH GOT THE PICK OF THE LITTER IF I WANT TO, SO THERE!! GRRR!


MORNING THERE, CAROL.
RYO.

OH STOP THAT, DEE.

WHY YOU LITTLE.. AND YOU'RE AS PLEASANT AS ALWAYS TOO, YOU LITTLE TWERP.
WHAT'S UP? WASTING THE PEOPLE'S TAX MONEY AS ALWAYS, ARE WE?

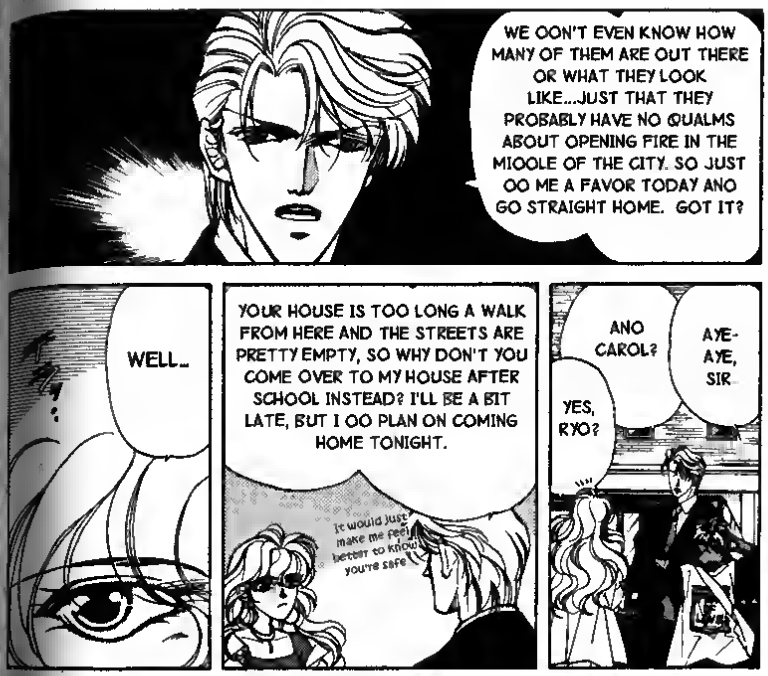
SURE, SURE, WHAT-EVER
YOU'LL PROBABLY GET THIS AT SCHOOL TOO, BUT MAKE SURE YOU GO STRAIGHT HOME AFTER SCHOOL, ALL RIGHT?
BIKKY!


SO NO, WE'RE NOT WASTING ANY TAXPAYER MONEY THIS TIME.
SEEMS A GANG OF BANK ROBBERS SNUCK INTO THE AREA LATE LAST NIGHT AFTER FINISHING UP A MAJOR JOB. THEY'RE ARMED AND DANGEROUS, SO WE'RE PATROLLING THE AREA.
ACTUALLY WE'RE HERE ON BUSINESS

AS IF YOU'RE THE CREAM OF THE CROP OR SOMETHING!! YOU'RE NOT EVEN CLOSE!! YOU RE MORE LIKE GUNK ON THE BOTTOM OF MY SHOE!! HA, HA YOU'RE PATHETIC IF YOU THINK ANY DIFFERENTLY!!
WELL, THEY DO SAY EVERY DOG HAS HIS DAY, EVEN WHEN IT'S SO UGLY YOU CAN'T TELL WHAT BREED IT IS
BUT HEY, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU LIKE, THEN THAT S WHAT YOU LIKE, RIGHT?
A LOT OF PEOPLE THINK HE'S GORGEOUS SO SHUT UP ABOUT THAT!! AND BY THE WAY, HE MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT HE'S AT THE HEAD OF HIS CLASS AHD HE'S A MAJOR athlete TO BOOT, SO THERE!!

DEE.
HEY THERE, YOU LOVEBIRDS. GOOD TO SEE THE PASSION HASH'T WAHED A BIT BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU.

IT'S NOT REALLY LIKE THAT BUT..
ARE YOU GUYS FIGHTING OR SOMETHING?
MAKE UP WITH HER, 'KAY? SEE YA LATER, BUD.
OKAY.
YO, RYO WE GOTTA MOVE OUT. SOMETHING WENT DOWN ON 15TH STREET

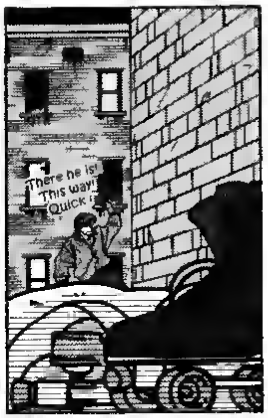

WE DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW MANY OF THEM ARE OUT THERE OR WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE...JUST THAT THEY PROBABLY HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT OPENING FIRE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY. SO JUST DO ME A FAVOR TODAY AND GO STRAIGHT HOME. GOT IT?
WELL..
YOUR HOUSE IS TOO LONG A WALK FROM HERE AND THE STREETS ARE PRETTY EMPTY, SO WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER TO MY HOUSE AFTER SCHOOL INSTEAD? I'LL BE A BIT LATE, BUT I DO PLAN ON COMING HOME TONIGHT.
It would just make me feel better to know you're safe
AND CAROL?
AYE-AYE, SIR
YES, RYO?

I'LL THINK ABOUT IT, OKAY? SEE YA.
.....

I've got a bad feeling about this. And it's not just because she's on a date with someone else.
HOLY CRAP! BOBBY?!
THESE GUYS WITH GUNS..CHASING US AND, HEY!! AREN'T YOU THAT KID I ALWAYS SEE AROUND CAROL?
!?
HELP ME!! PLEASE !!

THE MOVIE THEATER?
HUH? I THOUGHT SHE WAS GOING WITH YOU? OUT TO THE MOVIE THEATER ON 4TH STREET?
HEY, LIZ, IS CAROL AROUND?
HI THERE, BIKKY. WHATCHA DOING?
Carol's friend, Liz.
I wonder if she's with Bobby then?
YEAH SHE SAID SHE WAS GONNA GO SEE A MOVIE AFTER SCHOOL SO I ASSUMED..
AHH, ALREADY ALL THAT AND HE'S JUST 13. HE'S GOT HEARTTHROB WRITTEN ALL OVER HIM.
What a cutie.
THANKS, LIZ.
THANKS! I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND!
Ha, ha.
HEY, YOU! IF CAROL DUMPS YOU, COME SEE ME, OKAY!? I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF YA!!

HEY! I THINK I HEARD SOMETHING FROM OVER THERE!!


There he is! This way! Quick!

S... SORRY !!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE!!
CLUNK

THIS WAY! HURRY!!
I, UMN.

THE CRIME

Kyaaa hhhh -------!!

YOU ANNOYING DORK.
I saw them
WHERE THE HELL IS CAROL, HUH? I THOUGHT SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE WITH YOU? WHAT HAPPENED!? TALK!!

...BUT THEY HAD ALREADY SEEN US.
WE WERE JUST WALKING BY AND WE, WE SAW 'EM DO IT SO.. WE TRIED TO LEAVE THE SCENE...
THEY JUST KILLED SOMEONE. SHOT 'EM IN COLD BLOOD.

SO YOU BOLTED WITHOUT CAROL?!

WHY CAN'T I JUST WASTE HER, HUH? SHE'S DRIVING ME NUTS WITH ALL THAT SCREAMING!!
Aahhh, shut up already!!
Let me goooooo!! Let me go, let me go, let me go!!! You creep! You loser!! You pervert!!
THE COPS ARE OUT AND ABOUT TONIGHT.
I DON'T WANT TO RISK IT. WE'LL GET RID OF HER AFTER WE MEET UP WITH RICK AND HIS BOY.
Dammit. They've got Carol. And if I don't do something fast, they're gonna kill her.
OKAY
OANG. THERE'S A SHITLOAD OF COPS CREEPING AROUND. MAKE SURE TO KEEP HER QUIET.
CRACK
Now!!

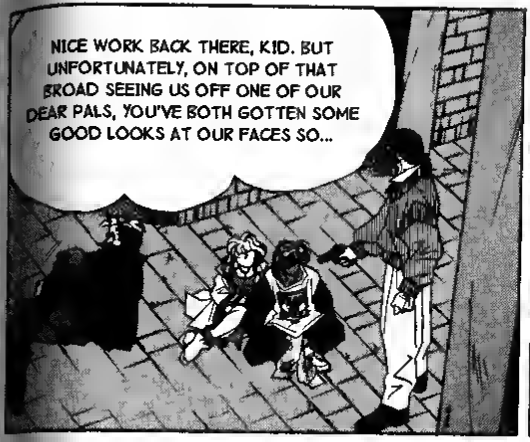
?!
OW, OW, OW, OWIII
BIKKY !!
YOU OKAY THERE, CAROL?
Kyaahhhhh----!!!
PEACE

Jeez!
ABOUT TIME YOU GUYS SHOWED UP...
PEACE OF LOV

Gaahhhh! Cough cough hack.

DON'T MOVE!

WHAT'S UP, BIKKY?


NICE WORK BACK THERE, KID. BUT UNFORTUNATELY, ON TOP OF THAT BROAD SEEING US OFF ONE OF OUR DEAR PALS, YOU'VE BOTH GOTTEN SOME GOOD LOOKS AT OUR FACES SO...

I JUST CAN'T LETCHA LEAVE HERE ALIVE, CAN I?!

Bastard!!

Bikky !!

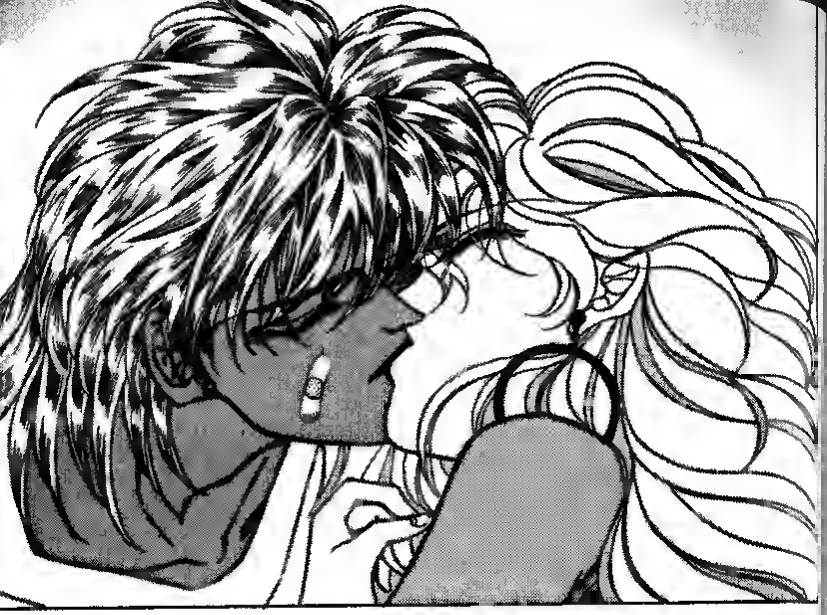
Good luck with work, boys!
OKAY, BUT JUST A SECOND.
THANKS, DEE LET'S GO, CAROL.
THANKS, DEE AND RYO.
THE CONCLUSION

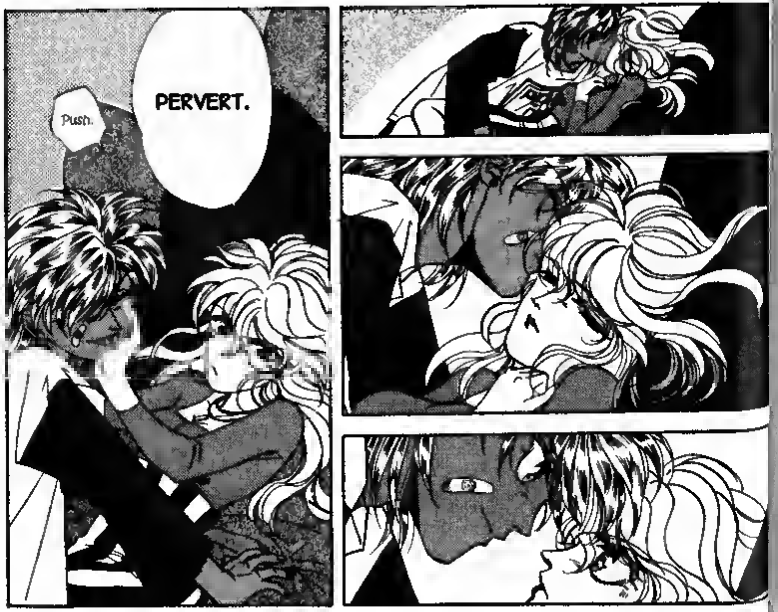
SORRY.
Bop
DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO GO STRAIGHT HOME?
HOW'D YOU EVER FIND US? THIS PLACE IS FULL OF LITTLE ALLEYS AND ROADS. IT'S LIKE A MAZE.
OH
NERE. YOU FORGOT THESE.
Pile.

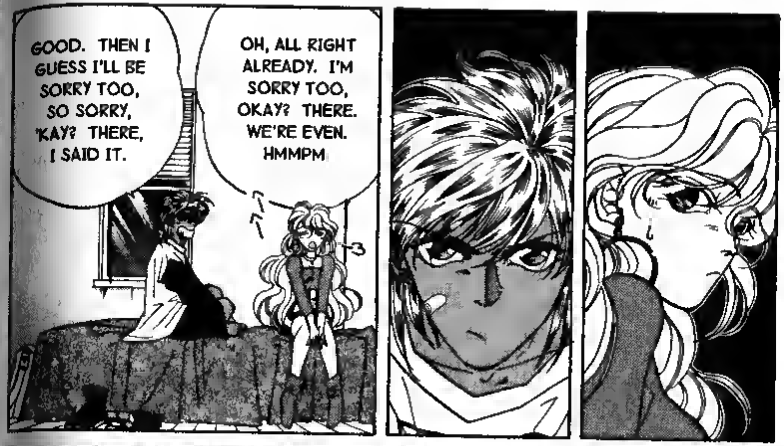
I GUESS THEY OFFED HIM OVER SOME PETTY ARGUMENT.
THAT AND WE ALSO NABBED THEIR FRIENDS AND STUMBLED OVER A DEAD BODY ON THE WAY HERE.
WE HAD SOMEWHAT OF AN IDEA
MOSTLY LUCK. BUT SINCE WE'D FOUND BIKKY'S BACKPACK AND SKATES OVER THERE AND HEARD THE GUNSHOTS.
Or else that old badger will eat all of us for breakfast.
WE'LL MAKE UP SOME SORT OF COVER STORY SO YOU GUYS GO NOME FIRST AND WAIT FOR US OKAY?
AT ANY RATE, YOU TWO BETTER CLEAR OUT BEFORE THE CHIEF GETS NERE.

JUST A BIT. BUT DON'T WORRY, IT'S ALL GOOD
SORRY. DID THAT HURT MUCH?
OWW.
Wipe
IT'S ALL IN A DAYS WORK, RIGHT?
REALLY, IT'S OKAY, 'KAY?
BLACK
I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT EVERYTHING TODAY. I GOT YOU HURT AND IN A LOT OF TROUBLE.
In other words, she's temporarily so stupid it can't by measured by normal means
IT JUST PISSED ME OFF IS ALL.
BUT I ADMIT, I WAS A BIT HARSH WITH BOBBY MYSELF. I'M SORRY. I DON'T KNOW.
Scratch.
OKAY, MAYBE THAT WAS A BIT TOO MUCH INFORMATION FOR MY TASTE.
NOT TO MENTION I'VE GOT MY PERIOD THIS WEEK SO I'M ALL FRAZZLED TO BEGIN WITH.
I WISH I'D NEVER SAID "YES" TO THAT IDIOT BOBBY'S MOVIE INVITE
SNIFF

YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I MEAN, YOU KNOW YOU'RE FIRST IN LINE FOR ME. BUT YOU DON'T TRUST ME ONE BIT.
WNAT?
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, TNOUGH YOU SNOULD FEEL A BIT SORRY FOR NOW YOU'VE BEEN TREATING ME.
Yep yep
ACK. OH SURE, TURN THE TABLES ON ME WHY DON'T YOU!! AND I SAID I WAS ON MY PERIOD SO YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY HOLD ME RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYTHING I DO OR SAY WHILE THAT'S GOING ON!
WHAT ABOUT THAT WHOLE CECILE INCIDENT THEN?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I TOTALLY TRUST YOU!!
WELL, WHAT ABOUT YOU, HUH?
Testing, fall picking on me when you do it exactly that's me thing
LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN, OKAY. WHAT ABOUT YOU, HUH?




PERVERT.
Push.


GOOD. THEN I GUESS I'LL BE SORRY TOO, SO SORRY, 'KAY? THERE, I SAID IT.
OH, ALL RIGHT ALREADY. I'M SORRY TOO, OKAY? THERE. WE'RE EVEN. HMMPM

WELL THEN, HERE'S TO MAKING UP THEN

FAKE • Act 9

BY SANAMI-MATOH FAKE II

Heh, Heh!
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T UNLEASH MY FULL PERVERSION ON YOU UNTIL TWO YEARS FROM NOW. 'KAY?
'KAY.
DEAL. AND UNTIL THEN, I WON'T EITHER.
Bobby.
"Mommy" Help me!
Someone!
SEE YOU AGAIN.

FAKE act 9/End

-FAKE-

VOLUME THREE

Ryo and Dee are on the hunt for a serial killer who murders women who look like prostitutes. They're aided by FBI agent Diana Spacey, a brilliant investigator who is an old friend of Berkeley. Soon, she is caught in the serial killer's web and it's up to Berkeley and the gang to save her!
In the second act of the story, Ryo's childhood is explored, and family secrets are revealed. It's the Christmas season, and Ryo doesn't want to spend it alone. On Christmas Eve, Dee comes to wish him a "Merry Christmas" and Ryo is extremely touched by the sentiment. All of their fiery feelings finally lead to one hot scene that you'll never forget!

After - Talk

FIRST OFF, I'D LIKE TO SAY, "THANK YOU VERY MUCH" FOR PICKING UP "FAKE II" (WELL, HOPEFULLY YOU BOUGHT IT AND DIDN'T JUST PICK IT UP BUT, WHATEVER!!) NOW, EVEN THOUGH I'M TAKING MY TIME WITH THE FAKE STORY WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, FOR SOME REASON I JUST KEPT GETTING RUSHED AND THERE ARE ACTUALLY QUITE A FEW PAGES AND SECTIONS I HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH TIME TO DO RIGHT SO...IT WAS QUITE A PROJECT TO GET EVERYTHING FINISHED FOR THE MANGA VERSION. AND STILL, THERE'S JUST SO MUCH THAT I WANTED TO ADD BUT COULDN'T SINCE IF I ADDED THAT, THEN I'D HAVE TO ADD SOMETHING ELSE AND SO ON AND SO FORTH. SORRY!!

- NOW, IF YOU DON'T MIND, JUST A LITTLE ADVERTISEMENT. AT THE SAME TIME THAT FAKE II HITS THE BOOKSTORE SHELVES, I'LL ALSO HAVE THREE OTHER MANGA IN STORES AT THE SAME TIME (OCTOBER 1995). THE FIRST TWO ARE "BE-ING 3" AND "BLACK X BLOOD I" FROM A DIFFERENT PUBLISHER (WHOSE NAME I WON'T MENTION HERE BUT I'M SURE IF YOU DID A BIT OF INVESTIGATING--WHICH I'D REALLY APPRECIATE--YOU'D BE EASILY ABLE TO ID WHICH ONE IT WAS), AND THE LAST ONE IS THROUGH THIS PUBLISHER, BIBLOS, CALLED "RA-I" THROUGH ZERO COMICS. (BUT NOT THROUGH BE X BOY COMICS. SORRY FOR THE CONFUSION.) IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND AS TO PICK UP THESE OTHER ONES UP TOO, THEN I'D BE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL.
- NEXT, PLEASE, PLEASE SEND ME LETTERS ABOUT WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT THE WAY I HANDLED FAKE II * I THINK A LOT OF YOU OUT THERE MIGHT THINK I'M BEING A BIT OF A TEASE ABOUT THIS, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LET THEM RUSH THEIR ROMANCE. I RATHER LIKE IT THIS WAY AND THINK I'LL KEEP IT AS SUCH FOR A WHILE LONGER. AFTER ALL, IF I JUST HAD THEM PLOW ALL THE WAY TO THE END THEN, I MYSELF WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH THE STORY ANY LONGER. SORRY, GUYS!! (IT'S NOT LIKE I'M DRAWING THE STORY SLOW TO BE MEAN TO YOU READERS. IT'S JUST THAT I NEED MORE TIME TO DRAW IT. GIVE ME TIME PLEASE!! WHATEVER!!) A..AT ANY RATE, I'LL TRY TO DO BETTER FOR THE NEXT STORYLINE SO PLEASE, PLEASE DON'T GIVE UP ON ME OR DEE & RYO YET. AND OF COURSE, BIKKY AND CAROL AS WELL!!

P.S. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR YOUR LOVELY FAN LETTERS. I'M SO SORRY I DON'T HAVE TIME TO WRITE YOU GUYS BACK. BUT REST ASSURED THAT I DEFINITELY DO READ EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE LETTERS YOU SEND ME, SO PLEASE DON'T GET DISCOURAGED AND KEEP THEM COMING!! I'LL BE WAITING FOR THEM!!

AND ONCE AGAIN, THANK YOU SO, SO, SO VERY MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

* SEND LETTERS TO: TOKYOPOP, 5900 WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 2000, LOS ANGELES, CA 90036

1995 ♥